

24 million hit by Bangladesh flood disaster

Plea to West for aid after torrential rains ruin crops

By Paul Valley in London and Ahmed Fazi in Dhaka

More than 24 million people in Bangladesh - a fifth of the country's population - are either homeless or without food after the worst floods in the country's history, according to aid workers recently returned from the north-west province.

Two million of the region's bamboo and mud homes have been destroyed by waters, 5 ft or 6 ft deep in places, which lie over vast areas of the north-west and central southern regions.

Mr Andy Rutherford and Ms Helen Allison, of War on Want, returned from the most devastated regions on Wednesday. "We drove for hours and hours along roads which were lined with tens of thousands of people. Everyone has congregated along the higher roadsides. They were just living there without any shelter and often without any food. We didn't see any government relief being handed out at all," Ms Allison said yesterday.

"Some had managed to rescue small stocks of food from their flooded homes but others had nothing. Those who could had brought their livestock and hens with them. Cattle were tethered by the edge of the road."

In Dhaka yesterday the Government's Central Flood Relief Centre said that the floods, set off by heavy rains and torrents in the foothills of the Himalayas in the north, now affected more than 24 million people. Two million homes had been destroyed and crops on about 4.3 million acres had been devastated.

At least 671 people are officially listed as dead and 105 others missing in the floods which swept across 30 districts, a government spokesman said. The hardest hit was the northern region, where 350 people have died, including 27 drowned when a passenger boat carrying 100 people sank in the Chittagong area.

The worst damage to rice crops is in the north, where the rice seedlings have been transplanted in the main ploughing of the country's staple food. In many areas the floods will wipe out the harvest for the coming year. They will also deprive the labourers of the period of work in which they earned maximum wages.

The prospect of famine now menaces the people of Bangladesh. Famine often follows floods, as it did in 1974 when several hundred thousand people died after floods less serious than those occurring this year.

Unless Western countries mobilized relief with great speed, a disaster as great as the one which hit India in 1943-44 could be repeated.

The floods have caused concern to aid agencies in the West for some weeks. But most of the news from the largely inaccessible regions reached Dhaka only in confused reports. The War on Want officials are the first aid workers to have travelled extensively through the Rangpur, Bogra, Nator and Manikganj regions.

According to them, five million acres of cropland are under water and 1.5 million tons of food have been lost. Most of the homeless have also lost their means of livelihood. They estimate that 21 million people are without shelter, food or work.

"The vast majority are landless labourers. With no land to work, they will receive no wages to buy food. The poor who do have a little land will be forced to sell it for food," said Mr Rutherford.

The coming days are when the rice seedlings should have been transplanted in the main ploughing of the country's staple food. In many areas the floods will wipe out the harvest for the coming year. They will also deprive the labourers of the period of work in which they earned maximum wages.

The prospect of famine now menaces the people of Bangladesh. Famine often follows floods, as it did in 1974 when several hundred thousand people died after floods less serious than those occurring this year.

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Fight to reverse decision on space

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

A final attempt is being mounted in Whitehall to save the future space plan for Britain, which the Government rejected in July.

It comes from the management board of the British National Space Centre, which includes senior Civil Servants from the Ministry of Defence, Department of Trade and Industry and the Foreign Office.

They are seeking a meeting with Sir Francis Tombs, the head of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's new Advisory Committee on Science and Technology (Acost).

They agreed their campaign yesterday at the last full board meeting under Mr Roy Gibson, who resigned as director general of the centre when his plan to treble its £100 million a year budget was discarded.

The board confirmed support for the Gibson plan, in which the expansion of space research in Britain concentrates mainly on collaboration through the European Space Agency. Most of the extra money would go to three new projects: Columbus, Hermes and Ariane.

The scientific members of the national space centre, representing the major teams in universities and the Meteorological Office, upheld the view that it would be impossible to sustain effective space research without an increase.

Their argument will be put to Sir Francis before Acost meets next month to review the space plan. However, that review comes close to a meeting of Ministers of the European Space Agency, in November, when decisions are needed on the collaborative schemes.



Daley Thompson, the defending champion, is in danger of losing his decathlon title in Rome at the world athletics championships today. After winning the 100 metres (above) yesterday, his challenge faded and after four events he was in fifth place with 3,483 points. Reports, pages 32 and 34.

Willis heads off no-strike deal confrontation

By Roland Rudd

Mr Norman Willis, General Secretary of the TUC, stepped into the internal affairs of the trade union movement yesterday to head off a split over single union no-strike agreements.

Britain's largest trade union, the Transport and General Workers, had tabled a motion at the TUC conference in Blackpool, for the first day of debate next Monday, calling on the congress to establish a special review body to prevent the use of no-strike clauses, which are particularly favoured by the electricians union.

Although the motion was expected to be carried, Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the TGWU, was forced to back down yesterday after Mr Willis put forward a plan to head off confrontation.

Under Mr Willis's plan, all eight motions on trade union organization, including Mr Todd's, will be proposed and seconded without debate. Mr Willis will then speak in favour of his plan, endorsed by the general council, calling for a review to look into all the proposals contained in the different motions to establish a new way forward for the TUC at next year's conference.

If his plan, outlined in a two-page statement yesterday, is carried - which it almost certainly will be - the eight motions will then fall and the

controversy will be deferred for at least a year.

Last night Mr Hammond said the threat to ballot the union on pulling out of the TUC had now receded.

"This is a bid to stifle democratic debate; a bid to paper over the cracks."

The far reaching Willis plan had the significant backing of Mr Eric Hammond, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, who had threatened to ballot his members if the TUC tried to prevent his union from signing binding pendulum arbitration deals, which amount to no-strike clauses.

Mr Todd, who had made clear that he would never sign any agreement that removed the rights of his members to withdraw their labour, was anxious to insert a "goodwill" clause in the TUC statement which tied the electricians to an agreement preventing unions from signing no-strike deals while the review body was in process.

But Mr Willis said the General Council had decided not to bind the EETPU to any such agreement, although he hoped that unions "would make efforts not to knock the process."

However Mr Hammond told his colleagues not to prejudice his position since they

Continued on page 20, col 2

The Army takes over in Burundi

From Alistair Matheson Nairobi

In an apparently bloodless coup in the tiny East African state of Burundi, President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza was yesterday deposed by the Army while attending a summit in French-speaking leaders in the Congo.

He was replaced by a Military Committee for National Redemption, headed by a little-known major, Pierre Buyoya, a member of the 70 central committee of the ruling Upronsa party. Major Buyoya is believed to be a member of the Tutsi tribe which has dominated the Burundi Army since independence in 1962.

Harsher sentence threat to Hayward

From Richard Evans, Stockholm

Captain Simon Hayward, the Life Guards officer jailed for five years by a Swedish court for drugs smuggling, faces a severe risk of having his sentence increased when his appeal is heard later this month, it was revealed last night.

Mr Ulf Forsberg, the Uppsala public prosecutor, who successfully conducted the original court case against the 32-year-old officer last month, disclosed to *The Times* that he has asked the appeal court to impose a tougher penalty.

"I think he could get some years more - certainly one or two. I want a stronger verdict," Mr Forsberg said.

The appeal case, originally scheduled to begin next Wednesday, has now been put back to September 23 while the prosecution, and defence teams in Sweden and London, carry out new inquiries in an attempt to strengthen their arguments.

Captain Hayward, who has maintained his innocence ever since being arrested by Swedish police in March, remains held in solitary confinement and is only allowed to see his Swedish defence lawyer or British Embassy officials. Requests by *The Times* to see him this week were rejected by Mr Forsberg who had turned down similar applications from Captain Hayward's relatives.

In the meantime, a submission to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg is being planned in advance of the Swedish appeal hearing.

Mr John Gorr, Conservative MP for Hendon, North, who has been a consistent supporter of Captain Hayward, said: "Nothing can be achieved in Sweden because the state, which controls the judiciary, has decided that it is not expedient for Captain Hayward to be given a fair trial."

"There is a whole list of breaches of the European Convention on Human Rights, any one of which on its own could overturn the Swedish court's findings."

"But the two most important grounds in my view are the fact that it can be shown that even by Swedish standards he has not had a fair trial and that the tribunal was not impartial or independent."

"One of the most damaging - and controversial - aspects of the trial was the hearsay evidence" from an anonymous Scotland Yard informant given to the court by a Swedish drugs liaison officer working in London.

Car find offers vital clue to IRA plot, say police

By Craig Seton

A battered Datsun car linked to a possible IRA plot to kill Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was bought for cash at a London auction and the change of ownership was not registered, Wiltshire police disclosed yesterday.

The car was sold by its previous owner in Bethnal Green, east London, through an evening sale on July 2 by the Whitechapel Car Auction company near by.

The car was bought for £350 and the vehicle then disappeared for nearly two months before its discovery by police this week.

Last night, as the car was being checked at the Wiltshire police headquarters at Devizes for traces of fingerprints, arms or explosives a spokesman for the auction company said the police had taken away all the documents from the sale.

The new owner failed to register the Datsun, registration number FHE 80V. Although police have the name given by the person who bought it at the crowded auction, they believe that it may be false.

The rusty and dented vehicle was found late on Wednesday night 25 miles from Mr King's Wiltshire home and only 1.5 miles from a campsite used by three Irish suspects.

They were arrested on Sunday close to Mr King's home at Ford, near Chippenham, under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Last night police applied to the Home Office for permission to hold the three suspects for questioning until Sunday.

The manner of the car's purchase has added to the police belief that they may have foiled possible plans of an IRA reconnaissance team sent to investigate security at Mr King's house in preparation for an assassination attempt.

Two of the three people being held, a man and a woman, were picked up on Mr King's land in Wiltshire "in suspicious circumstances".

Hours later, another man was arrested at the Wootkey Hole campsite at Cheddar Gorge, 1.5 miles from Wells, where the Datsun car was found parked in a back street.



The Datsun car found at Wells being examined for traces of fingerprints, arms and explosives last night.

New US convoy braves the Gulf

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

Six American warships were last night escorting yet another convoy of three US-flagged Kuwaiti merchantmen down the coast of Saudi Arabia after a fifth day of Iranian hit-and-run raids on vessels in the Gulf.

The latest victims were the 180,200-tonne Japanese-registered tanker Nishin Maru, and the 17,172-tonne Italian cargo vessel Jolly Rubina, both assaulted so suddenly by Iranian gunfire before dawn that their crews had no idea they were under attack until the first rocket-propelled grenades exploded.

Two crewmen on the Jolly Rubina were slightly wounded. The Iranian Revolutionary Guards chose their other target in error. The Nishin Maru had been partially loaded with Iranian crude oil at Sirri Island and was thus carrying the very cargo on which Iran depends for funds to continue its war with Iraq.

During the afternoon, the Iraqis reported that they had attacked another "large naval target" on the Iranian side of the Gulf, although there was no independent confirmation.

The US convoy, which was expected to reach the sea lane north of Bahrain around dawn today, comprises the liquid gas carriers Gas Queen and Gas Princess, and the super-tanker Townsend, and is the third outbound convoy the Americans have escorted from Kuwait. It is also the most heavily defended, supplemented as it will be in the southern end of the Gulf by the presence of the helicopter-carrier Guadalcanal. The Iraqis are still showing no signs of wishing to engage the US Navy or attack their charges.

Although five Iranian tankers and a supply ship have been hit, Iranian oil exports scarcely appear to have fallen. The Iraqis still have at least seven tankers operating between Kharg Island in the northern Gulf, which is under daily bombardment by Iraqi jets, and their offshore loading terminal at Larak Island.

UN chief's visit, page 7

THE TIMES Degree course vacancies

There are no degree vacancies published today. The Degree Course Vacancies Service will resume on Tuesday.

IN PART 2 Take Courage

The 5,000 Courage pubs are to be floated on the stock market in November with a likely price tag of more than £1 billion. Page 21

Willis quits

Bob Willis, the former England captain and fast bowler, has resigned as chairman of Warwickshire's cricket sub-committee after only seven weeks in the job. Page 34

Portfolio

● There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition. Yesterday a reader from north London won £12,000 because there had been no winners on the previous two days. Details, page 3. ● Portfolio list, page 25.

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A Startling Memory Feat That You Can Do

How I learned the secret in one evening. It has helped me every day.

When my old friend Richard Faulkner invited me to a dinner party at his house, I little thought it would be the direct means of doubling my salary in less than two years.

Towards the end of the evening things began to drag a bit as they often do at parties. Finally someone suggested the old idea of having everyone do a 'party-piece'.

When it came to Peter Brown's turn, he said he had a simple 'trick' which he hoped would like. First he asked to be blind-folded. Then he asked someone to shuffle a deck of cards and call them out in order. Still blind-folded he instantly named the cards in their order backwards and forwards without making a single mistake.

You may well imagine our amazement at Peter's remarkable memory feat!

On the way home that evening I asked Peter Brown how it was done. He said there was really nothing to it - simply a memory feat. Anyone could develop a good memory, he said, by following a few simple rules. And then he told me exactly how to do it.

What Peter said I took to heart. In one evening I made remarkable strides towards improving my memory. In just a few days I learned to do exactly what he had done.

The most gratifying thing about the improvement of my memory was the remarkable way it helped me in business and in my social life. I discovered that my memory training had literally put a razor edge on my mind. My thinking had become clearer, quicker, keener.

Then I noticed a marked improvement in my writing and conversational powers. What's more my salary has increased dramatically.



These are only a few of the hundreds of ways I have profited by my trained memory. No longer do I suffer the frustration of meeting people I know and not being able to recall their names. The moment I see someone I have met before a name leaps into my mind. Now I find it easy to recall everything I read I can now master a subject in considerably less time than before. Private lists, reports, quotations, data of all kinds, I can recall in detail almost at will. I rarely make a mistake.

What Peter told me that evening was this: "Send for details of Dr. Furst's Memory Course." I did. That was my first step in learning to do all the remarkable things I have told you about. In fact, I was so impressed that I got permission to publish Dr. Furst's Course myself.

My advice to you now is don't wait another minute. Full details of Dr. Furst's remarkable Course are available free on request. Post the coupon today.

BOB HEAP

We, the publishers, have printed full details of Dr. Furst's unique memory-training method in a free book entitled "Adventures in Memory". For your free copy simply post the coupon on page 2 (no stamp needed), or write to: Mind Development Programme, Dept. TSM61, FREEPOST, Manchester M3 8BA.

NEWS SUMMARY

August car sales set new record

Sales of new cars in Britain last month were a record at more than 400,000, according to motor industry figures to be published tomorrow.

The August boom confirms the industry's prediction that sales for the year will exceed 1.9 million. The August bonanza, fuelled by the introduction of the E number plate prefix letter, has also been achieved without excessive discounting and, thanks to the weakness of the pound, without a surge in imports. Foreign cars slipped from a 56 per cent share a year ago to 50 per cent this year.

Meanwhile a telephone "hotline" for motorists seeking information about safety recalls by car makers has been set up. Owners can telephone 01-235 7000 during office hours.

● Vauxhall's Merseyside car workers have beaten their production target for the first time in 25 years. It is claimed that the Ellesmere Port plant is the only factory to beat its output target this year among General Motors' European plants. Others are in Belgium, West Germany and Spain.

Keepers rescued

Three lighthouse keepers were rescued by RAF helicopter yesterday when fire swept through Bell Rock Lighthouse, 12 miles off Arbroath, Angus.

The fire started in an upper room and swept downwards. The top three floors were badly damaged. The Arbroath lighthouse was launched in heavy seas but its services were not required.

The lighthouse, built 150 years ago, is being converted to automatic operation.

Whose is Sharrood?

A High Court judge yesterday ordered a speedy trial of an action to decide the ownership of the station Sharrood.

Mr Clifton Vincent claims he bought the horse from its owners, Darley Stud Management of Newmarket, and wants to send it to Australia.

Darley say there was no such agreement and they were entitled to sell to Highclere Stud of Newbury — which they have now done. Sharrood is racing in the US.

UDR man accused

A former colour sergeant in the Ulster Defence Regiment was charged yesterday with stealing 18 weapons from an Army barracks in Hollywood, Co Down. John Fletcher, aged 40, who resigned from the UDR three days ago, appeared in court in Belfast after being extradited from the Irish Republic. Mr Fletcher, from Finaghy in South Belfast, was remanded in custody until September 25.

Opera's pay deal

The orchestra at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, last night accepted a 4 per cent pay rise, leaving only the chorus in dispute with management.

The decision raised hopes that the season may open on time with Wagner's *Tannhauser* on September 12.

A spokesman for the Royal Opera House expressed sympathy for chorus members who, with two or more years' experience, earn a basic £176 a week. But he gave no indication that their 4 per cent offer would be increased.

The Star merged

Forty eight hours after losing their editor in the backwash of the Monica Coughlan/Jeffrey Archer court case, journalists on *The Star* learned yesterday that their newspaper is to be merged with the *Sunday Sport*.

There had been rumours of a deal involving the sex and scandal weekly, but the announcement (after two weeks of secret negotiations) that Express Newspapers, owners of *The Star*, were selling a 60 per cent stake to Mr David Sullivan, *Sunday Sport* proprietor, surprised some.

Bullion coin launch

The Britannia, the 22-carat British gold bullion coin will be launched on October 13, and will be available to the public the next day. It will be minted in four sizes, 1 oz, 1/2 oz, 1/4 oz and 1/10 oz.

The Royal Mint has also announced the appointment of primary distributors in Britain and in five main international markets. The UK primary distributors will be N M Rothschild, Sharps Pixley, Mocatta & Goldsmid and Samuel Montagu.

Cornwall's curves defeat new train

The curves on the railway lines in Devon and Cornwall have finally defeated some of British Rail's most modern trains (Our Transport Correspondent writes).

Within two years of being brought into service there, the trains are being banished to areas where the countryside is gentler.

The two-carriage lightweight trains, known as skippers in Devon and Cornwall and as pacers in the North, are mounted on a bus-style chassis and were designed to replace the ageing diesels and cut running costs on provincial lines.

The last of the 160 pacers ordered by BR at a cost of about £50 million were delivered this summer.

But they have suffered many technical problems, particularly regarding their gear-boxes, and yesterday British Rail finally admitted defeat regarding the use of such trains in the south-west.

British Rail said the four-wheel design was not suitable for severe curves.

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No demand to extradite Italian fans

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Belgium made clear yesterday it would demand the extradition of any Italian football supporters to face charges with the 26 Liverpool fans due to be sent to Brussels in the next few days. Italy does not extradite its own nationals to face trial in other countries.

British MPs and a defence lawyer yesterday demanded that Italian supporters found to have been involved in the Heysel stadium disaster must be brought to trial.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, has agreed to the extradition of the 26 Liverpool fans to face manslaughter charges.

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that the United Kingdom was the only country in western Europe which accepted the extradition of its own nationals.

But it said the laws of other countries made it easier for them to try at home people who allegedly committed offences abroad.

The Britons were picked out from police video recordings of scenes at the European Cup final at the Heysel stadium in May 1985 which led to 39 deaths and hundreds of injuries. Italians were also picked out from the same police video recordings taken before the match between Liverpool and Juventus, Turin.

Three Italians, including a Turin supporter, Umberto Salusoglia, who ran on to the Heysel pitch with a starting pistol, have been tried and sentenced in their absence by the Belgian courts for violence and public order offences.

Mr Paul Rooney, defence lawyer for four of the Liver-

pool supporters, said he was concerned that the blame for the disaster when a wall collapsed before the match would be "heaped" on the British supporters.

He said on TV-am that it was clear Belgian and Italian nationals were involved.

Mr Robert Wareing, Labour MP for Liverpool West Derby, speaking on BBC television, said: "Any of us who watched the football match that night and the horror of that scene, will have seen Italian fascist flags, big banners saying Liverpool fans are animals which were premeditated provocation."

If convicted, the British supporters could receive draconian sentences. They may be charged with four offences, including manslaughter of the 39 Heysel

stadium victims — which carries a maximum penalty of 10 to 15 years forced labour. But lawyers say the labour would not be heavy.

The four charges against the Britons are:

- Manslaughter with malice aforethought.
- Assault occasioning actual bodily harm, malicious wounding or inflicting grievous bodily harm.
- Assault and battery with malice aforethought, leading to disease or disablement.
- Assault and battery with malice aforethought.

However, Mr Jean Gol, the Belgian justice minister, made it clear that if convicted the prisoners would almost certainly serve their sentences in Britain.

Mr Gol disclosed that 15

leading Belgian lawyers have volunteered to defend the 26 Liverpool supporters, in an attempt to allay British fears that the Belgian legal aid system provides only young and inexperienced lawyers.

Section B, first floor, at the Central Prison in Louvain, a university town 20 miles from Brussels, awaits the 26 Liverpool fans.

Fourteen specially-prepared cells have been set aside in the remand block of the imposing, grey prison building just a few yards from Louvain's main shopping street.

They will live the life of any other remand prisoner with minor adjustments to cope with the numbers involved.

The will be entitled to two walks each day in the prison grounds, visits to the prison



Mr Jean Gol: No pressure on Italians

library and regular television until 8.15pm.

Visiting arrangements allow for a maximum of three relatives — parents, grandparents, brothers, sister, wives or girlfriends — a daily visit of up to two hours.

How white collar workers will unite

By Roland Rudd

More than 100 unions and staff associations have been asked to join a proposed merger to create the largest white collar union in the world.

The move was announced yesterday by Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) and Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Staffs (Tass).

They say the merger will bring together 700,000 trade unionists in the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic.

Mr Jenkins hoped the new union for manufacturing, science and finance would have a million members by the time he retired on May 2, 1991.

According to the general secretaries their 1987 subscription income will be more than £18 million.

Mr Gill said: "We will have an asset base in excess of £40 million, which will enable us to maintain and further develop our research facilities, health and safety, legal support and education."

The general secretaries say it will be strong enough to maintain "the most extensive and influential lobby machinery in both Houses of Parliament in the UK, in the Irish Republic, European Parliament and within European institutions".

However, it is likely that a number of unions will not want to join. Another general secretary has said that Tass will prevail because those who run that union do not want to give up their power.

None the less, more than 30 independent unions have implemented mergers with both ASTMS and Tass.



Children spending a first day in the classroom before being asked to leave Overthorpe School by an education official.

'Outcast' children win day at school

By Our Education Reporter

Twenty-six families in Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, won a small victory yesterday in their battle to send their children to the school of their choice.

After a ninety-second confrontation between parents and a Kirklees Education Authority official, the 26 seven and eight-year-olds were allowed to spend the day in the hall of Overthorpe Middle School, where they have been denied places.

They were egged on by shouts of "Go back in, go back in" by their parents as education officer Mrs Cynthia Champkin tried to evict them from a classroom.

Education officials have allocated places for them at nearby Headfield Middle School, which is 93 per cent Asian. The parents complain that Christianity does not get enough emphasis at Head-

field. The dispute has now been referred to Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education.

On Wednesday, the children spent part of the day standing in a field with a teacher because the authority would not allow the headmaster, Mr Gordon Hirst, to let them use an empty classroom.

Yesterday, they spent an hour, unsupervised, inside the school until Mrs Champkin told them to leave. One parent, Mr Eric Haley, said: "We will take them back tomorrow and keep on taking them back until we win."

Mr Hirst sent letters to the affected parents yesterday warning them that in future their children would not be allowed on the school premises and that the school could not be responsible for them.

"I have been instructed not



Mrs Cynthia Champkin orders the children out of school.

to admit your child. Consequently I must ask you not to bring your child to the school.

"I hope you will understand the severe stress under which your child is being placed, and

I would ask you to pursue the matter through the other channels available to you".

Overthorpe School is not full and the authority has surplus teachers.

Villagers in pyjamas stop Army

By Michael Evans

The British Army's new Saxon armoured personnel carrier with its steel hull and bullet-proof windcreens met its match in the Wiltshire village of Lyes Green... in the form of Mr Philip Plumb and his family saloon car.

Mr Plumb had been roused from his slumbers by the noise of a massed array of armoured carriers and vehicles on a map-reading exercise.

Members of the 19th Infantry Brigade had converged on the village, population 250, after a mix-up over checkpoints. Each of the units, driving the six-cylinder Saxons, had been given 18 checkpoints and one of them was the Cross Keys public house.

The Army admitted yesterday that several units arrived from different directions at the same time.

Mr Plumb, aged 39, supported by villagers clad in pyjamas and dressing gowns, drove his car across the road to stop the convoy.

The villagers did not back off until the Army had agreed to retreat.

Countryside fails to lure Britons

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

One in four people in Britain seldom, if ever, visits the countryside, according to a report published yesterday by the Countryside Commission.

That proportion is made up of elderly people, those on a low income, the unemployed, those from an ethnic minority, those living in poor housing in the inner cities, and those who are dependent on public transport.

A further 50 per cent of the population are occasional visitors. Many of these people, according to the commission's research, are in white collar or skilled manual jobs, own cars and live within three miles of the countryside.

The remaining 25 per cent, categorized as frequent visitors, live in the country or near it, are mostly well off and take an active interest in rural pursuits.

"Most people benefit less than they might, or hardly at all, from visiting the countryside", the report concludes.

A survey showed that only 26 per cent of those questioned felt they knew even their local countryside very

well, and that people tended to return again and again to the few places they did know well.

That indicated that, without relevant and easily available information, choice and variety was limited and prime sites were over used.

Sir Derek Barber, the commission chairman, said yesterday that its first aim was to have the existing 120,000 miles of rights of way legally defined, properly maintained and well publicized.

The commission would seek an increase of £1,800,000 in its budget next year for recreation and access work. The Countryside Landowners' Association last night described the commission's commitment to the reopening of all 120,000 miles of rights of way as "a bolt from the blue".

The association had hoped for discussions with farmers and landowners about how to update the existing "archaic" network.

Policies for Enjoying the Countryside, CCP 234, *Enjoying the Countryside: Priorities for Action*, CCP 233, (Countryside Commission Publications, Despatch Department, 19-23 Albert Road, Manchester, free).

Farms crisis, page 12

No hymns at 'lost soul' Ryan cremation

By Michael McCarthy and Ruth Gledhill

Michael Ryan, the Hungerford mass killer, was cremated yesterday after a brief ceremony sparse of flowers, hymns mourners and emotion. His ashes are to be scattered in secret by his family.

Relatives of the gun fanatic, aged 27, who killed himself after shooting 16 people and wounding 12 others in his rampage through the Berkshire market town a fortnight ago, had feared there might be trouble at the funeral.

Officers from Thames Valley police were present on watch.

But in the event the final subdued act of the Hungerford tragedy was played out at the municipal crematorium in Reading, 30 miles away, without incident, though not without some controversy.

The funeral was taken by the vicar of Calne, Wiltshire, Canon John Reynolds, who last week buried Ryan's mother and victim, Dorothy, and also by the vicar of Hungerford, the Rev David Salt.

Mr Ron Tarry, Hungerford's mayor, publicly questioned the necessity of Mr Salt's attendance, saying he was surprised at his decision.

"I understand he feels it is his Christian duty and I must respect that but it should be made clear that he in no way represents the people of Hungerford." Apart from the two clergymen the only people present were seven of Ryan's relatives: among them from his mother's side, his uncle, Mr Stephen Fairbairn, aged 67, and from Ryan's father's side another uncle, Mr Leslie Ryan, aged 75.

Mr Salt gave the address. Ryan was "a lost soul who caused the loss of so many loved ones", he said.

One of Ryan's injured victims will carry a reminder of the tragedy for the rest of his life. He has got a bullet lodged near his brain.

Mr Ivor Jackson, aged 54, who lives a few doors from Ryan's home and who believes the gunman's mother saved his life by diverting Ryan's attention, was shot in the head.

Doctors say it is too risky to remove the bullet.

Human impulses, page 17

Corporal to appeal over jailing

Corporal Vincent Craig Bramley, jailed for three years for stealing and possessing pyrotechnic equipment, is to appeal against his conviction and sentence imposed at Winchester Crown Court this week.

Bramley, an RAOC instructor at Camberley, Surrey, was found not guilty of stealing and possessing explosives.

Corporal Kevin Connelly, of Fawley, Hampshire, was jailed for four years for receiving and possessing plastic explosive and pyrotechnics.

Bramley's lawyers said reports suggesting the equipment was to be sold to the Foreign Legion were untrue.

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Children 'woken at midnight for sex abuse examination'

By Peter Davenport

Two consultant paediatricians at the centre of the Cleveland child abuse controversy examined young children during a ward round that they began after midnight, the inquiry into the affair was told yesterday.

Dr Mariana Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt spent five hours examining three girls and a boy, aged between eight months and four years, at Middlesbrough General Hospital.

The details emerged yesterday as nurses at the hospital told of confusion, disruption and concern caused by the increasing numbers of children being admitted earlier this year on suspicion of having been sexually and physically abused.

Mrs June Drummond, a staff nurse, said she had several conversations with the two consultants and had told them of her concern at the number of cases being admitted, but they assured her their findings were based on sound clinical techniques.

She said that, on the night of June 13, the two doctors had arrived after midnight to begin a ward round during which they examined three young girls and a boy who had been sleeping, and had to be dissuaded by a nurse from examining a fifth child.

The children had all been admitted earlier for a variety of medical complaints, including an ear infection, vomiting and a failure to thrive.

After the examinations, which involved an inspection of the vagina and anus, the doctors said they had found signs of consistent sexual

abuse in the girls but not in the boys.

Mr Robert Nelson, QC, for the doctors, told the inquiry that they had had specific reason in each case to examine the children. They were not merely looking to find more cases of abuse.

Mrs Drummond agreed she had used the word "elated" in a statement describing the reaction of the two doctors upon finding signs of sexual abuse.

Yesterday, she said she meant that they had seemed glad to have found out what may have been causing the children's condition and that now they and their families could be helped.

Five nurses from Middlesbrough General Hospital gave evidence before the inquiry, which is being headed by Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss.

All of them told of increasing confusion and disruption, especially on Ward 9, a unit meant for acute cases but which, at the height of the crisis, was used as a place of safety for up to 25 children alleged to have suffered sexual abuse.

The children were housed in the ward because all the council establishments and foster homes were full.

The nurses yesterday complained of a lack of information about the cases they were having to handle, increased pressure of work, and disruption caused by having children alongside sick youngsters, and, at a time when they were unsure of the legal position, having to face angry and aggressive parents demanding access to their children.

Miss Debbie Cunliffe, the staff nurse in charge of Ward 9, said that there was so much chaos and disruption caused by the children that teachers at a play group in the hospital refused to teach. Domestic assistants said it was not their job to keep tidying up after the youngsters.

Miss Cunliffe said there was a huge increase in the number of children being diagnosed as victims of sexual abuse in May and June and that nurses felt they were being denied adequate information.

She told of two occasions on which six children had to be moved to other wards to make room for more cases of alleged sexual abuse, causing distress and upset with each of the young patients and their parents.

One was a young boy, a diabetic whose move to another part of the hospital had such an adverse effect on him that he refused to take his medicine.

The other was a child in traction who had to be wheeled across the hospital grounds much to the distress of his parents.

So much confusion existed that, at one time, after an examination of three children from a council home, nursing staff made preparations to receive all 15 other residents in the mistaken belief that they too were about to be examined.

Other nurses spoke of the demands of coping with the crisis that placed strains on the hospital and led to an increase in pressure on staff.

The inquiry continues today.

An everyday radio story of yuppie folk



Introducing the twice-weekly yuppie Citizens of Radio 4. From left to right: Beverly Hills, who plays Julia Brennan, Russell Boulter (Michael Brennan), Kate Duchene (Alexandra Parker) with William, her baby (Emma Street), James MacPherson (Hugh Hamilton), and Seeta Indrani (Anita Sharma).

By Lynda Mardia

Citizens, an everyday story of young upwardly mobile urban folk, was unveiled yesterday as BBC Radio 4's first new drama serial for 36 years.

It is intended to make the fictional Limerick Road, Ditcham Heath, London SW21, as much a part of Britain's consciousness as Ambridge, home of the station's only other audioscape, *The Archers*.

Citizens, twice-weekly with an omnibus edition on Saturdays, will be rather less cosy than the country chronicles and could be as controversial as BBC Television's *EastEnders*.

Starting on October 27, it

will tell of five young people from different parts of the country who met at college and come to share the London house, which has an unmarried mother as landlady.

The serial, which features unknown actors, is produced and directed by Marilyn Imlie and Anthony Quinn, who spent six months researching locations and creating characters.

The landlady, Alexandra Parker, is an English graduate and mother of William, aged three. She works at an arts centre and is good-hearted, but disorganised. Anita Sharma, qualified as a doctor, and now a senior house officer at a London hospital, is involved with a pharmacist

called Jatinder. She is said to be gentle yet strong-willed.

Twins Julia and Michael Brennan come from an Irish Catholic family. Beginning to go their separate ways, Julia is a graduate management trainee at a department store, and Mike, who abandoned a philosophy course, is unemployed, and looking for a direction.

Two former Sotheby's directors have announced plans for an auction house designed for the "yuppie" market, and based in Islington, north London (Our Sale Room Correspondent writes). The house will specialize in ceramics and furniture in the £50 to £100 range.

Portfolio Gold Bathroom celebration

Mr Michael Gillings, a chartered surveyor, plans to put the £12,000 he won in yesterday's Portfolio Gold competition towards home improvements.

Mr Gillings, aged 37, of Oak Tree Drive, Totteridge, north London, is to receive three times the usual £4,000 daily prize because there were no winners on Tuesday and Wednesday.

He said: "I'm delighted and surprised because the most I have ever won before was a bottle of scotch in a local raffle. My wife and I are

thinking of having our bathroom moved around, so I am very pleased."

Mr Gillings, a reader of *The Times* since he took advantage in 1968 of the half-price copies offered to students, has played the competition since it started in 1984.

Readers wishing to play the Portfolio Gold competition can obtain a card by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.

Doctors give Aids babies longer life

By Thompson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Babies born with Aids are given a new treatment which has produced remarkable improvements in their health, a medical conference in London was told yesterday.

The children receive injections of antibodies specially produced from blood donations which help to keep some of the symptoms at bay. Although not a cure, the treatment is seen as an important life-prolonging therapy.

Specialists in Edinburgh who have developed the technique believe it may also prevent progress towards Aids in infants who are infected but who have not yet developed illness. The babies being treated are among about 40 born in Scotland to drug-abusing mothers.

Six children aged between 18 months to four years have received injections of immunoglobulin derived from donated blood and containing antibodies against a range of common infections. They protect the children

against Aids-related conditions by boosting their immune systems.

The results of the work were presented to international specialists at the Hospital Infection Society conference by Dr Peng Lee Yip, of the Edinburgh Blood Transfusion Service.

He and Dr Jacqueline Mookan, an Edinburgh paediatrician, have been following the progress of the children since the treatment began 18 months ago.

He said: "We have seen dramatic improvements in some of the children. They suffer from chronic weight loss, diarrhoea and respiratory conditions. They are very small, thin and sickly."

"But we have seen them gain weight and they are in generally better health."

The technique has been tried in New York, California and in Switzerland where one child with Aids has survived for about five years as a result, he said.

Call to screen women in high-risk regions

All pregnant women should be offered Aids tests if they live in areas with a high incidence of the disease, some leading specialists believe.

Revised guidelines to be produced by the Hospital Infection Society are likely to recommend that such tests should be introduced as routine at ante-natal clinics in such areas.

Women would need to give their consent before the blood test was taken. If the result was positive, an expectant mother would receive advice which would include the possibility of an abortion.

The likely move by the society would conflict with Department of Health and Social Security guidelines and recommendations by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

The tests are already being carried out at St Stephen's Hospital in Fulham, west London. Between February this year when they began and June only one woman out of 240 tested was found to have traces of Aids infection.

She declined an abortion but accepted advice against having more children.

Model was duped by a rapist

A theology student who advertised her services as an artists' model to earn extra money took "every precaution" to guard against pervers.

She rejected all requests for a nude model, yet the fair-haired girl of 21, still fell into the clutches of a "terrifying" sex maniac, Miss Susan Edwards, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

An offer of work arrived by letter, supposedly signed by a woman called Rhona, asking the student to pose for female artists as a Roman slave girl.

When she arrived at the house in Mosses Road, Fenge, south-east London, she was grabbed by the neck, bundled into a bed-sitting room and raped twice.

The student was held captive for three "terrifying" hours by Roy Almond.

Almond, unemployed pleaded guilty to rape and false imprisonment. Mr Justice Owen remanded him in custody for three weeks for psychiatric reports.

Princess died 'after father rejected her'

A Kuwaiti princess died from an overdose of sleeping tablets after her father rejected her, it is thought because he disapproved of her marriage to an Arab who already had a wife.

Fajiah Salem Nasser al Sabah, aged 25, was found dead on June 24, an inquest in Hammersmith, west London, was told yesterday.

The princess was the daughter of Sheikh Salem, governor of Kuwait. The inquest was adjourned until September 10.

Heart man's rhythm of life

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Terence Jeeves was playing snooker the first time his heart switched from its normal beat to an uncontrolled and life-threatening palpitation known as a cardiac arrhythmia. He had a second attack 18 months later.

Although the odds were stacked against him, he survived again. And now he is confident about the future. He has become the first National Health Service patient to be fitted with a form of super pacemaker which allows him to follow his normal lifestyle.

Mr Jeeves, who is aged 28 and lives in Brighton, was implanted with a new device that monitors the regularity of his heart beat every second of the day. If it should falter again, it will automatically receive a 600v shock to restore normal working.

He is one of six Britons dependent on the super pacemaker known as an implanted defibrillator. It incorporates a microcomputer that monitors

the heart and a miniature electronic circuit which delivers the shock to tiny electrodes attached permanently to the heart. It costs £9,000.

The implantable defibrillator, the size of a cigarette packet, was inserted into Mr Jeeves's abdomen in July last year by Professor John Camm, at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south-west London.

It was the latest version of the device pioneered by Dr Michel Mirowski. The new device, Dr Mirowski says, has reduced the chances of dying from an arrhythmic attack from 40 per cent to 2 per cent in trials in the United States involving 1,500 people.

There are about 20 possible causes of the heart flurging into the chaotic pattern of beating that is responsible for about 100,000 cases of sudden death a year in Britain.

According to experts at a conference called this week by the British Heart Foundation

on the management of cardiac arrhythmias, more than 50,000 of those lives could be saved by exploiting advances that have been made in screening for people at high risk and in treatment.

The implantable defibrillator, which mimics in miniature what an instrument the size of a television set does for reviving hearts in hospital emergency department, is suitable for only a proportion of people diagnosed as at risk.

Mr Jeeves says he has to return periodically to the outpatient's department for the batteries of the device to be recharged. It is done by placing an electromagnetic coil on the skin covering the defibrillator.

Although there are only six patients with implanted defibrillators in Britain, there are many more in whom heart specialists have placed electrodes and leads to which defibrillators could be attached.

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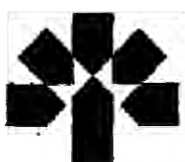
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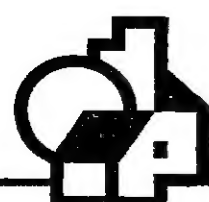
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مكتبة الوطن

'I pity the killers' says pregnant wife of carnival victim

The pregnant widow of a man murdered at the Notting Hill Carnival yesterday described how her husband died trying to earn "a few extra bob" for their expected baby.

Mrs Patricia Galvin, who is expecting a second child in January, wept as she told a press conference at Scotland Yard: "Michael Galvin was the man I loved and he meant everything."

Referring to the gang of 10 now being sought by police for the killing, she said: "I feel very sorry for them."

"It's a very heavy cross to bear. I pity them."

She last spoke to Mr Galvin at about 1.30pm on Sunday. "That was just before he set up his stall. He was trying to make an extra couple of bob."

Her husband, an electrician aged 23, was stabbed in the chest after a wrangle about cola he was selling.

Mrs Galvin, aged 27, said: "I went to the hospital and I was told by a doctor he had died. I felt numb. I was amazed."

She wept and hugged her husband's brother, Mr Peter

Galvin, as she related her feelings.

Mrs Galvin, of Casterbridge House, Ledbury Road, from the Wexham estate, Notting Hill, west London, only a few yards from where her husband was murdered, said: "It's going to be hard facing the baby on my own but we will get by."

Her first child, Valerie, will be two in January.

An inquest into the death was opened and adjourned until September 30 at Westminster yesterday.

The family was told the body could be released for burial.

After the two-minute hearing Mr Galvin's tearful father said: "I don't know why he was killed or why something like this had to happen."

Comforted by his sister, Mr Augustine Galvin, said: "I can't even talk about it."

"My daughter-in-law is still under sedation and we're terrified she might lose the baby."

Dr Richard Shepherd, who carried out the post-mortem examination, gave the cause of death as haemorrhaging due to a stab wound to the chest.

The dead man's brother, Mr Peter Galvin, who was also manning the stall, said at the press conference: "I think the murder of Michael Galvin should be solved before any decision is taken about the future of the carnival."

He added that he felt sorry for the murderer and his accomplices but said: "God will deal with them." Mr Michael Galvin died at the height of the carnival on

Sunday when a group of about 10 youths and men approached his stall.

One of the gang stole a can of soft drink and stabbed their victim once through the chest and heart as he tried to retrieve it.

Mr Galvin's friend and business partner, Mr Kevin Brown, said a fund would be launched to help the family.

"We appeal for anyone in the area who saw anything to come forward. This whole thing is unbelievable, such a senseless killing over nothing at all."

Of the murderer he said: "He's a cold-blooded killer with no regard for human life. I don't see how anyone can let a man like that walk the streets."

As Mrs Galvin left in tears comforted by her relatives, Det Insp Arwyn Hughes said police were looking for a dark tan stationer leather hat which Mr Galvin was wearing when he was stabbed.

The hat, which had a napkin tied around the top with the words "cold beer and soft drinks" written in silver ink, had gone missing, he said.

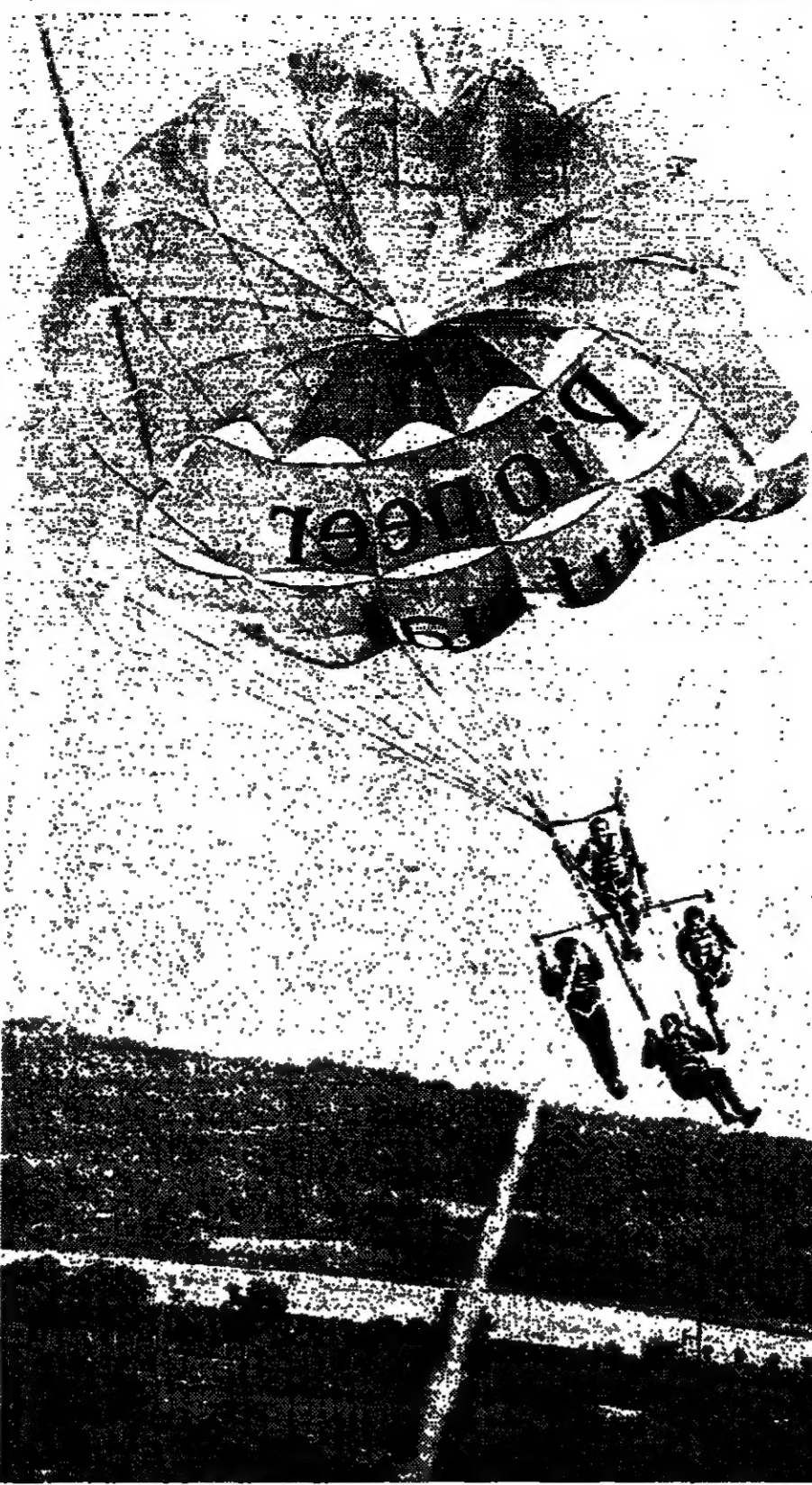
A gang member may have stolen it, or it may have been picked up by a passer-by.

Police had received a number of video recordings after their appeal to the public for films and photographs.

"We're putting together a picture of the group. Some of the people must be getting worried and frightened."

Anyone with information is asked to ring Kensington police station on 01-930 1145 or call in at their local station.

Giant of the Channel



Four men from Burford, Oxfordshire, practising at Cuxton, Kent, for an attempt to parasail the Channel. John Yeatman, Steven King, David Cohen and Colin Boyle are using a 39 ft canopy. (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Schools turning to parents for chairs, books and videos

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Schools in Wales are increasingly run down and short of books and even chairs while some parents are contributing up to five times the local authority allowance to pay for equipment, schools inspectors have found.

Some parents are paying three times as much to support their school now as they did five years ago.

In their annual report on the Welsh education services, the inspectors found that authorities were delaying building repairs that were needed for safety reasons and that "the poor upkeep of many schools communicates to pupils an indifference to environmental standards".

In a few schools which have been given a facelift, "this has brought about a noticeable change in the conduct and attitude of pupils, particularly in their respect for property", the inspectors said.

Responding to the report, Mr Wyn Roberts, Minister of State for Wales, said yesterday: "There remains much to be done in the education service in Wales."

Since 1979 local authorities' current expenditure on schools has risen in real terms while the number of pupils has declined and is continuing to fall.

"These improvements in the level of government funding for education ought to be reflected in a better service."

The inspectors found that one long unrepaid secondary school roof had collapsed, costing £45,000 to repair. The flat roofs of the 1960s and 1970s are constantly leaking.

Other frequent problems include: "noisy toilets,

risen floor tiles and splintered floors in halls and classrooms, broken boundary fences and crumbling school walls, damp damage and faulty electrical fittings, cracked and flaking plaster, rotting window frames, broken windows, occasionally boarded up with the broken glass inside."

All have an adverse effect and may contribute to a depressing environment, the inspectors said.

In most Welsh secondary schools, libraries were "in a deteriorating state" and some spend only £200 to £400 a year on library books.

Two schools spent more than £1,200 in the year on furniture. In some secondary schools, "the search for chairs can be a cause of delay and disturbance".

Parents, as elsewhere in the country, are contributing more and more from their own pockets to buy textbooks, mathematics and reading schemes, microcomputers and video recorders.

In one primary school the local education authority allowance for books and equipment was £500 when the parents had raised £2,500 in the year.

The inspectors found that increasingly authorities are employing non-specialists to teach English, Welsh and mathematics.

One authority had seen more than seventy new appointments of heads and deputies in its 240 primary schools.

The effect on the Education Service in Wales of Recent Local Authority Expenditure Policies (EDSP), Welsh Office, Crown Building, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CFI 3N0; free)

Women offenders face higher risk of jail

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Evidence that the risk of a woman going to prison has increased more than that of a man is produced today by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

Female offenders' chances of going to jail are more than twice as high as they were a decade before, the association says. But the likelihood of men being jailed has risen far less during the same period, by about a third.

Three per cent of women offenders found guilty aged 21 and over were sentenced to immediate imprisonment in 1975, compared with 16 per cent of men. But in 1985 the proportion of women had risen to 7 per cent and of men to 21 per cent: both figures in-

clude partly suspended sentences.

Miss Vivien Stern, the association's director, commenting on the disproportionate rise, calls for an urgent review of "our over-readiness to send women to prison".

There were 1,758 women in custody in England and Wales on June 30, 10 per cent more than the total of 1,580 12 months before.

A total of 3,387 women was remanded in custody in 1985, only 40 per cent of whom were subsequently judged to deserve prison sentences, compared with 63 per cent of men remanded in custody.

Women in Prison and Women, Cautions and Sentencing (Nacro, 169, Clapham Road, London SW9 0PU; free).

Sinclair's US computer deal

By Robert Matthews

Sir Clive Sinclair's company, Cambridge Computer, is bringing in the American electronics company, SCI, to mass-produce its latest personal computer, the Z88, launched last February.

Until now, Cambridge Computer has used Thorne EMI to produce the £290 laptop machine, which has so far been available only by mail order.

The switch to SCI comes after Dixons and Comet, the high street retailers, signed distribution agreements with Cambridge Computer to sell the Z88.

Alabama-based SCI is thought to be the world's largest electronic sub-contractor, and has factories in the United States, Europe and the Far East. The company

already supplies important components to computer companies such as IBM and DEC.

The Z88 is to be made at SCI's plant in Irvine, Scotland, where production is expected to reach 400 units a day, double the present rate.

The move will be seen as an attempt by Sir Clive to leave behind the reputation gained, on past products, for poor quality as volume rates increase.

"We were determined to achieve quality at all stages of development", he said. Mr Barry Farnes, managing director of SCI(UK), said yesterday that his company had to take a hard look at the product to be sure that it could achieve the required quality for the price.

"We believe that the Z88 is

an excellent new product, with great potential in this country and abroad."

Mr Farnes is joining the Cambridge Computer board, which has a shareholding of 55 per cent with Sir Clive. Sinclair Research has 8.5 per cent, and staff about 20 per cent.

The remainder is held by public subscription; no public institutions have equity in the company. The Z88, which weighs less than 2lb, is capable of word-processing to diary-keeping, and spread-sheet and scientific calculations.

The company is shortly to launch a microprocessor-based memory pack for about £200, which will plug in. It also proposes a unit allowing the Z88 to transfer data to the Amstrad PCW range of computers.

Lawyer asks for secret documents

By David Cross

A lawyer representing three of four men accused of conspiracy to kidnap members of an outlawed South African nationalist group yesterday called for access to documents concerning "matters of national security".

Mr Benjamin Conlon, counsel for John Larsen, aged 27, a computer technician; his father, Frank Larsen, aged 53, a psychologist born in Zimbabwe; and Jonathan Wheatley, aged 28, unemployed; told

magistrates in Lambeth, south London, that the documents were extremely delicate.

After a hearing last week, Mr Stephen Fidler, solicitor for the three, read out a statement that his clients would prove that the British government was involved in the case. The three "totally denied" the charges.

"They have no connection with the South African government and its agencies."

Yesterday the three, who are charged with conspiracy to kidnap members of the African National Congress, were remanded in custody for a week. Their next court appearance is on September 17. A fourth man charged with them, Evan Dennis Evans, aged 48, a former special forces soldier, was remanded in custody until September 10, when an application will be made for bail. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Airlines scramble for fares

By Harvey Elliott

The two rival airlines who will begin services from the new London City airport fired the opening shots yesterday in what promises to be a bitter and costly marketing battle.

Gloomy forecasts have already led to a reduction in the number of services to be offered. It is believed there will be a scramble to attract the passengers who will fly from the airport. Eurocity, a subsidiary of British Midland Airways, has been granted licences to operate on eight routes from the new £35 million airport which is on the site of the old royal docks and opens next month.

The Plymouth-based airline, Brymon, has been granted four European routes.

On the money-spinning Paris route, the contest for passengers will begin with the first flights on October 26 and the number of seats offered, on up to 10 return flights a day, is expected to exceed demand.

Already this is leading to fears that the two airlines and the new airport, which has been built with private cash, will find it hard to achieve a profit for several years.

In attempt to spread the net as wide as possible to catch potential customers on both sides of the Channel, the airlines have each linked up with large European carriers.

Brymon yesterday signed a deal with Air France which will share both the costs and the eventual profits from the operations linking London City airport and Paris.

Eurocity has linked up with the Belgian national airline, Sabena, in a financial arrangement on the route to Brussels, leading Brymon to drop its own plans to fly there.

Both airlines will be aiming for the "high yield" business market charging about £100 one-way to Paris.

Both airlines are using 40 to 50 seat de Havilland Dash-7 prop-driven airliners on their services. The four-engine aircraft is so far the only airliner type cleared for operations from the east London airport.

AGA Group Income, after financial items, increased by 22 percent, to SEK 540 million, during the first six months of 1987.

The forecast of a 15 to 20 percent increase in income for the full year, after financial items, remains unchanged.

AGA is strengthening its position in the gas markets in France through the acquisition of Duffour et Igon, and in the Nordic region as a result of the purchase of Norsk Hydro's Swedish and Finnish gas operations.

AGA Group Interim Report 1987

Six Months Ended June 30, 1987.

Consolidated Income Statement, SEK m (unaudited)	Six Months 1987	Six Months 1986	Full Year 1986
Sales	5,061	4,582	9,314
Operating expenses, etc.	-4,209	-3,810	-7,842
Normal depreciation	-317	-288	-550
Operating income	535	484	922
Dividends	7	19	35
Income from sale of investment shares	57	4	7
Interest earnings	174	123	288
Interest expenses	-222	-164	-366
Exchange rate adjustment	-11	-23	-39
Income after financial items	540	443	847
Write-off of goodwill in 1986	-	-	-191
Other nonrecurring items	-3	220	349
Income before provisions and tax	537	663	1,005
Minority interest	-6	-39	-70
Provisions	-133	-164	-432
Tax	-106	-114	-220
Consolidated net income	292	346	283

The AGA Group had sales of SEK 5,061 m (1986:4,582) and income, after financial items, of SEK 540 m (443) during the first six months of 1987. Sales include SEK 124 m in the carbon dioxide operations of the Rommenhoeller Group acquired around year-end 1986. Revenue from other newly acquired companies was offset by the loss of revenue resulting from termination of cooperation with L'Air Liquide and the transfer of gas welding production to a company owned jointly with ESAB.

Income from the Gas, Frigoscandia and Energy operations improved during the first six months of 1987 but earnings from Tool Steel declined. The forecast of an increase of 15 to 20 percent in Group income after financial items remains unchanged.

In accordance with Recommendation 22 of the International Accounting Standards Committee, AGA has decided to offset goodwill related to company acquisitions directly against shareholders' equity. The goodwill calculated for the Rommenhoeller acquisition has thus been eliminated in the consolidated balance sheet at June 30, 1987.

During the first six months of the year the Group invested SEK 776 m (615) in land, buildings and machinery, of which SEK 619 m (450) was for projects in Gas operations. The largest ongoing projects involve atmospheric gas plants in Sweden, West Germany, France, Brazil and Venezuela.

Around midyear 1987 AGA acquired the French gas company, Duffour et Igon, and Frigoscandia began cooperation with Freshbake of Great Britain in a joint venture company, Frigofresh Ltd. These French and British companies are not included in the consolidated accounts for the first six months. Duffour et Igon and Frigofresh have annual sales of approximately SEK 375 m and SEK 100 m, respectively.

In July, a preliminary agreement was reached with Norsk Hydro to acquire the latter's gas companies in Sweden and Finland. These companies, active mainly in the carbon dioxide field, have annual sales of about SEK 100 m. In addition, Norsk Hydro will supply part of AGA's carbon dioxide and argon requirements.

The Group's liquid assets and short-term placements decreased by SEK 239 m, to SEK 2,675 m, during the first six months of 1987 and loans outstanding increased SEK 324 m, to SEK 3,770 m.

Group Operations, SEK m	Six Months 1987	Six Months 1986	Full Year 1986
Gas Operations	2,680	2,342	4,854
Sales	376	301	569
Income after financial items	371	304	556
Frigoscandia	741	626	1,411
Sales	48	41	151
Operating income	38	34	132
Income after financial items	1,087	1,067	2,032
Tool Steel	52	82	115
Sales	48	59	105
Operating income	573	556	1,053
Sales	61	80	114
Income after financial items	85	41	81

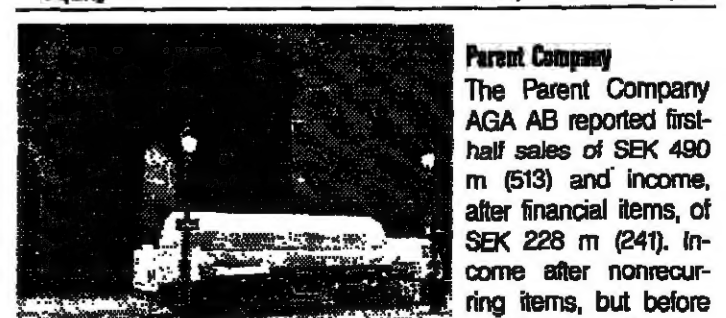
Gas operations reported a 14 percent increase in sales, of which 5 percent was attributable to the carbon dioxide operations of Rommenhoeller. Income after financial items including sale of investment shares improved to SEK 371 m (304).

Frigoscandia's sales rose 18 percent, of which Stein Associates, the new U.S. company, accounted for 10 percentage units. Income after financial items increased to SEK 38 m (34).

Tool Steel's sales rose 2 percent, but earnings after financial items declined to SEK 48 m (59). The drop in income was due partly to an accidental interruption of production at the billet mill, and to the negative effects of exchange rate fluctuations.

Energy operations experienced a very strong first half, posting income of SEK 85 m (41) after financial items. However, comparison with 1986 figures should take into account that the major power plants were sold at midyear 1986, increasing net interest earnings but reducing operating income.

Consolidated Balance Sheet, SEK m (unaudited)	June 30 1987	Dec. 31 1986
Assets		
Liquid assets and investments	2,675	2,914
Accounts receivable, trade	1,673	1,534
Other current accounts receivable, etc.	480	509
Inventories	1,096	1,032
Total current assets	5,924	5,989
Long-term accounts receivable, etc.	474	455
Shares, etc.	819	992
Land, buildings and machinery	6,769	6,202
Total fixed assets	8,062	7,649
Total assets	13,986	13,638
Liabilities and shareholders' equity		
Short-term loans	2,581	2,304
Other current liabilities, etc.	2,182	2,130
Total current liabilities	4,763	4,434
Long-term loans (non-convertible)	1,181	1,133
Other long-term liabilities	1,643	1,481
Total long-term liabilities	2,824	2,614
Convertible loans	8	9
Minority interest	76	71
Unsettled reserves	218	204
Share capital	1,181	1,181
Legal reserves and free reserves	2,654	2,997
Consolidated net income	292	283
Total shareholders' equity	4,127	4,461
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	13,986	13,638



As a result of the acquisition of Duffour et Igon, AGA has strengthened its position in France and the Group's gas operations there now cover the entire country. The photo shows a tank truck used by AGA France to transport liquefied gas.

During the first six months the Parent Company invested SEK 102 m (75) in new installations. Liquid assets and short-term investments declined by SEK 139 m, to SEK 2,049 m, and the company's external borrowing increased by SEK 517 m, to SEK 2,118 m.

Lidingö Sweden, August 25, 1987



AGA Aktiebolag, S-18181 Lidingö, Sweden.

AGA shares are listed on the stock exchanges in Stockholm, Helsinki, London, Tokyo, Zürich, Basel, Geneva and are sold in the USA via ADR-deposits.

Barristers urged to bring corporate image to chambers

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Barristers' chambers should be organized as collectives with a constitution and management committee instead of being a "random scatter of individuals", according to the chairman of the Bar, Mr Peter Scott, QC.

Barristers must adopt a corporate approach to administration if the Bar is to keep up with the pace of change and offer an efficient and independent service to the public, he says.

They must move away from the basic structure of a "collection of individuals each pursuing his own course" and associating only "to share a clerk" and to pool administration expenses.

Solicitors increasingly like to bring their work to a set of chambers rather than to individuals in them; and therefore an efficient and well-run set of chambers which has the confidence of the solicitor/client will generate work.

The change will also help larger provincial sets of chambers to win work which their local solicitors are now taking to London, by providing a more broad-based service, plus specializations.

Greater participation of barristers in running their chambers will lead to more direct discussion of problems with solicitors, rather than through clerks, he says, and will avoid clients being driven away.

But he says the change could pose problems, as barristers will still be individual practitioners, able to take their own line. "With chambers' contributions traditionally based on earnings, tensions may develop."

The Bar's system of discipline is also partly based on the obligations of heads of chambers to run them properly. "How far should they be able to ignore contrary views formed by their management committees?" Mr Scott asks.

Chambers are urged to draw up a constitution to deal with this and with the problem of the recalcitrant member who refuses to play a co-operative role or fails to "pull his weight".

A recent meeting of the heads of chambers has agreed that the Bar Council should draft a model "chambers' constitution" to be adapted as necessary.

Mr Scott says chambers

could take on board a number of the benefits of partnerships, although he stops short of advocating partnerships for barristers, which has been called for by Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading.

Suggestions include a "corporate" approach to administration and forward planning, with a careful recruitment plan aimed at providing enough expertise in specific areas of work and ensuring the right balance of juniors and QCs.

Chambers should also look at their pupillage policy and maximize any scholarships or loan schemes which they offer, to attract good recruits.

Mr Scott, who puts his views in his monthly column in the Law Society's *Guardian Gazette*, says the new approach is bound to cause problems for some chambers.

Some members will view it as "an unwelcome departure from the basic structure of individuals, each pursuing his own course" and content to accept, unquestioned, any plans or ad hoc decisions by heads of chambers.



By Paul Eastham

A young electronics expert is helping a valve radio enthusiast to re-create vintage wireless sets from salvaged parts.

Mr Gerard Wells (above right) has spent the past 14 years amassing valve radios dating back from 1916 to the 1950s, to create one of the largest collections in Europe. Some 1,200 sets are on display at the British Vintage Wireless Museum in Dulwich, south London.

Two years ago, Mr Wells received a

telephone call from Lucien Nemesvaz, (left) now aged 15, with an extremely complex inquiry about a particularly rare valve. It turned out Lucien, who could design computer programs at five years old, was an electronics expert.

Now the two have combined their talents, with Mr Wells building radio cabinets and the boy designing and building the insides using components from broken sets.

Lucien is already refusing offers of employment from electronics companies.

In his spare time he makes digital tape-recordings for pop groups on a semi-professional basis, using equipment he builds himself.

Both Mr Wells and Lucien say the military worldwide is suddenly realizing old-fashioned valves are the technology of the future, because they could survive the electromagnetic pulse emitted by nuclear explosions which destroys electronic systems.

(Photograph: Tim Bishop)

Top-rank Whitehall woman is redundant

By David Walker
Public Administration
Correspondent

A shake-up of Whitehall departments has left Sir Robert Armstrong, head of the Civil Service, with an unusual personnel problem: a redundant permanent secretary.

The problem is made embarrassing because the person without a job is Miss Anne Mueller. Her 1984 appointment was hailed as a breakthrough for women in the Civil Service. Miss Mueller, aged 56, was only the fourth woman to reach that level.

During the summer the Government announced that the Management and Personnel Office, a division of the Cabinet Office headed by Miss Mueller, was to be disbanded. Half of its functions was to go to the Treasury, which had been unhappy with the personnel office.

The office deals with personnel and ironically equal opportunities and was to be put into a new mini-department to be headed by Mr Richard Luce, the arts minister who also answers for Civil Service matters in Parliament.

But there will be insufficient work in the department to justify a permanent secretary's post, which pays £56,800 a year. The new arrangements come into effect on October 1.

Miss Mueller is likely to be put on "special duties" in the Cabinet Office for a time if no other post is available.

One post for which she might have been considered was running customs and excise in succession to Sir Angus Fraser, who retires this month.

That post was recently filled by Mr Brian Urwin, on promotion from the Cabinet Office.

Brink's Mat case dropped

A London publican accused of handling £150,000 from the £26 million Brink's Mat gold bullion raid was freed after Horseferry Road magistrates were told yesterday there was insufficient evidence to proceed.

Patrick Ahern, of the Bonnie public house in Catford, south-east London, was awarded costs from public funds. He said: "They were just doing their job but made a mistake, that's all".

Inquest opens on politician

An inquest was opened at Westminster yesterday on Mr Richard Willey, who unsuccessfully fought the Brecon and Radnorshire constituency for Labour in the last general election. The inquest was adjourned until September 23.

Mr Willey, aged 42, who lived at Norton, Powys, was found at the foot of stairs in Whitehall Court, Westminster, on Saturday.

RSPB appeals over eagle

Laws protecting wild birds need re-examining, if the High Court accepts a magistrate's decision over a stuffed golden eagle, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds says.

The society is appealing against Wednesday's acquittal of a taxidermist and a London auctioneer accused of illegally having a rare bird.

Haughey wins vital support

By Richard Ford

Mr Charles Haughey's minority government in the Irish Republic has been assured of a second year in office with an offer of support for its tough economic policies from the main opposition party.

The terms laid down by the Fine Gael leader for backing next year's budget are broadly the framework of the financial strategy adopted by the Fianna Fail government.

The unsolicited offer from Mr Alan Dukes removes the uncertainty about the stability of the government after publication of financial estimates this autumn and in the run-up to January's budget.

Since returning to office earlier this year, Mr Haughey has carried out U-turns which have astonished both his own party and the opposition, but his uncompromising fiscal grip has pleased the financial community.

Mr Dukes, who as a former minister for finance in the coalition government, knows that measures must be taken to tackle the nation's debt, said his party was not offering Mr Haughey a blank cheque. The next budget would have to open the way to reduced taxation, further cuts in the budget deficit and a strategy for expanding employment.

"I will not play that game which produces the sort of phoney economic analysis which has passed for opposition in the past. I will not pretend that economic reality has changed just because I now find myself in opposition", he said.

His parliamentary party will be asked next week to endorse his approach, which may prove unpopular with some elements of the party, but Fine Gael is in no shape to face an early general election and its strategists want time to recapture defectors to the new Progressive Democrat Party.

Weekend food prices

Healthy fruit crop offers good eating

The old adage that an apple a day keeps the doctor away has won support in France, Ireland, Italy and Finland. More than half the people who ate apples regularly achieved a 10 per cent reduction in cholesterol levels.

Now is a good time to buy apples as new season French and English crops are coming into the shops. The Ministry of Agriculture forecasts that this year's crop of dessert apples will be 9 per cent higher than last year, with English Cox's accounting for most of production.

Bad weather earlier in the year means the Bramley cooking apples crop could be down by as much as 28 per cent. English Discoveries cost 28 to 45p a pound and new season French Golden Delicious from 35 to 45p a pound.

The other good buys this week are bananas at 29 to 45p a pound, Cyprus sultana grapes 60 to 90p a pound, avocados from 25p each, Spanish Galia melons 50p to £1 each and yellow honeydews 35 to £1.10 each.

Mushrooms should be cheaper than usual. Among

Salad ingredients are plentiful, with iceberg lettuce from 35p, English celery 20 to 45p a head and tomatoes 40 to 60p a pound.

Fish supplies, interrupted by the Bank holiday, should be back to normal by the weekend. Large cod and haddock are down 2 to 3p a pound, but Dover sole is up 12p a pound to an average £4.25 a pound, although the range is wide, from £1.90 to £6.49 depending on area. Whiting is showing an increase of 5p a pound.

It is worth shopping around for meat bargains this week as many of the chain butchers and supermarkets have good offers. Tesco has fresh stewing steak at £1.18 per pound, sirloin steak £3.48 a pound, chicken quarters 79p a pound and frozen whole chickens 55p a pound.

Other good buys include Presto whole and half shoulders of lamb 78p a pound, whole and half legs of lamb £1.48 a pound and chops £1.88 a pound. Sainsbury's roast of beef is £1.68 a pound.

When Bischof and Klein, the West German plastic materials manufacturers, opened up in Telford they were over 580 miles from home.

Unimation, a robotics firm from Connecticut and part of the mighty Westinghouse Group, have ventured even further afield. They're now over 3,400 miles from their base.

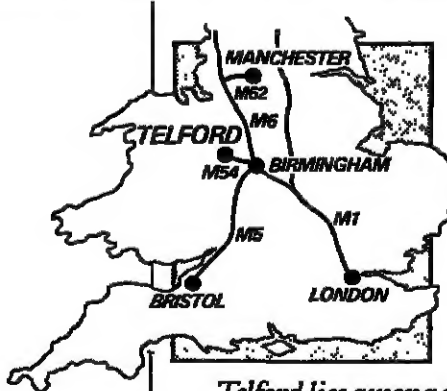
And should anyone from Maxell want to pop back into head office, then the company car would have to clock up a staggering 6,200 miles.

But no matter how far they've come, all these companies have found that there's something in Telford to remind them of home.

For the Germans, inventors of the autobahn, there's Telford's own motorway, the M54. It links up with the M6 giving easy access to all Britain's major ports and bringing two thirds her population within four hours' drive by heavy goods vehicle.



IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT MOVING YOUR COMPANY A FEW MILES THINK HOW THE GERMANS, AMERICANS AND JAPANESE FELT.



For the Japanese, who value the virtues of hard work so highly, there are the hard working local people of Telford.

And for the Americans, for whom the maxim "time is money" is almost gospel, there's an attitude of mind that proves that Britain's get up and go, hasn't got up and gone. As they've discovered, in Telford things get done with the minimum of fuss and the maximum of efficiency.

As for something to make the British businessman feel at home, there's the area itself.

Telford lies among some of Britain's finest countryside and includes within its boundaries the historic town of Ironbridge - the Birthplace of the Industrial Revolution.

But perhaps what's more important is how welcome the people of Telford will make you, and your business, feel.

Should you decide to come, Telford Development Corporation will do everything they can to make your move as smooth as possible.

They'll find you the site that best suits your needs. They'll make sure you get the most out of all the grants and loans that are on offer. They'll even help you and your staff find somewhere to live. And they'll do much more besides.

If all this has made you want to find out more, then ring Chris Mackrell, Commercial Director on 0952 613131. Or better still just drive up the M6 and turn left at the M54.

But if you do end up having to ask for directions don't be surprised if the reply you get comes back in Japanese.

TELFORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, PRINCE HALL, TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE TF2 2NT.



The success story continues.

VISIT AMTEX '87

AT THE TELFORD EXHIBITION CENTRE, SEPTEMBER 8-11.

WORLD SUMMARY

Filipino soldiers die in ambush

Manila — Communist guerrillas in the Philippines have carried out one of their most bloody attacks against government troops this year, in an ambush on a patrol in Quezon province, about 40 miles east of here (Humphrey Hawksley writes).

A colonel said that the attack, on Wednesday, nearly wiped out an entire platoon, with 21 of the 28 soldiers dead and five wounded. About 200 guerrillas opened fire from both sides of the road, destroyed an armoured personnel carrier, then blew up a bridge to prevent reinforcements reaching the men. The two soldiers who escaped said that the guerrillas also suffered many casualties.

Another six soldiers are reported killed in a separate attack by the communist New People's Army in the far northern Cagayan province. And several others, including civilians, are reported dead in guerrilla-related attacks.

Schluter's Harbour prediction blockade

Copenhagen — Mr Poul Schluter, the Conservative Prime Minister of Denmark, predicted yesterday that his five-year-old coalition would continue after next Tuesday's general election, but he said a quick poll could take place later this autumn if a parliamentary majority prevented his four-party minority Government from passing important legislation, such as the state budget (Christopher Follett writes).

Most opinion polls suggest that Mr Schluter will hold on to power after the election, but some say that he may have to depend on support from the maverick right-wing anti-tax Progress Party to gain a majority.

Guard kills comrades

Belgrade (AFP) — A young conscript killed four fellow soldiers and wounded six more as they slept before taking his own life yesterday, according to military sources cited by the Yugoslav Tanjug news agency. Sadik Keljendi, aged 20, a law student whose 12-month national service was to end this month, was on guard at the Paracin barracks in Serbia when he stole into the dormitory and massacred his comrades. His motives, the agency said, were not clear.

Canada out of step Korean protest

Ottawa — Canada passed the lone dissenting vote when the 41-nation summit of French-speaking countries meeting in Quebec adopted a resolution on Wednesday calling for recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and an international peace conference (John Best writes).

Mr Joe Clark, External Affairs Minister, said that Canada voted against the resolution because it would prejudice negotiations on the Palestinian issue.

Moi visits Helsinki

Helsinki — President Moi of Kenya, right, began a controversial state visit to Finland yesterday (Ollie Kivinen writes). He met Finnish leaders who had pledged not to discuss the abuse of human rights.

Israel lifts veil on Vanunu charges

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

In a surprise lifting of the veil of secrecy that has surrounded the trial of Mr Mordechai Vanunu, the former nuclear technician charged with betraying Israel's nuclear secrets to *The Sunday Times*, the prosecution yesterday made public details of the charge sheet against him.

By so doing, Israel appears for the first time to have confirmed the credibility of the information published by *The Sunday Times* last October.

Mr Vanunu is accused of supplying secret information about the physical structure and internal organization of Israel's nuclear research facility at Dimona in the Negev desert, as well as details about classified projects, working



norms, production procedures, code names and other highly secret material.

On January 19, 1986, the charge-sheet says, Mr Vanunu left Israel, taking with him films he had taken at the Dimona facility and all his notes and impressions. In May he arrived in Sydney, Australia, where he gave pictures and notes to a journalist.

The *in camera* trial has so far restricted access to hearing prosecution witnesses, and Mr Vanunu himself, testifying on what the defence claims is the illegal manner in which he was brought to Israel to stand trial.

Mr Vanunu has claimed that he was kidnapped in Rome at the end of last September.

UN chief's Tehran visit

Britain reluctantly agrees to Soviet backing for mission

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain has quietly and unenthusiastically acquiesced in a recommendation by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, in a personal letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

The letter, sent out by his policy on the Gulf, was delivered by the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Leonid Zamyatin, on August 17.

One of the points made was that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, should be given time to carry through his mandate to search for peace in the Iran-Iraq war.

It said it would "not be appropriate" to take a further step in the UN Security Council before the first step had been given every chance to succeed.

The British took this to mean that Moscow would block any move to obtain a Security Council resolution calling for an arms embargo against any country defying the council's call for a ceasefire, made in its Resolution 598 on July 20.

This conviction led the British Government to suppress its instinctive feelings about an invitation that Iran extended this week to the Secretary-General to go to Tehran for talks.

Although convinced that the invitation was a delaying tactic, designed to release Iran from expectations that it would give a clear "yes" or "no" to Resolution 598 by the end of this week, Britain felt

that the Soviet attitude made it pointless to object.

It therefore told Señor Pérez de Cuéllar that it would not stand in his way. If, as expected, he obtains a mandate from all five permanent members of the council his visit could be as soon as next week.

But Britain's misgivings have been reinforced by the wording of Iran's invitation. Although it said it would discuss all aspects of the Iran-Iraq war, including Resolution 598, it gave no hint of accepting it.

The fundamental difference between the British and Soviet

Tokyo — Japanese shipowners decided yesterday to suspend movements of their oil tankers in the Gulf for a day or two because of a resumption of attacks by Iran and Iraq on foreign shipping, a spokesman for the Shipowners' Labour Relations Agency said here (AFP reports). Seven tankers were immediately affected.

viewpoints is that Moscow remains far more optimistic about Tehran's intentions and about the Secretary-General's chances of success.

Mr Zamyatin, who has just returned to the Soviet Union on holiday, will no doubt feel some satisfaction at his partial success.

But other recommendations made in Mr Gorbachev's letter showed no sign yet of being achieved.

New pressure for tanker truce

New York — Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, was yesterday seeking to extract key concessions from Iran and Iraq, including a temporary truce in the escalating tanker war, before agreeing to embark next week on a peace mission to the Gulf at the invitation of Tehran (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

There is suspicion in diplomatic circles that the Iranian gesture is yet another stratagem to escape the mounting

pressure for a definitive response to Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for a ceasefire under the threat of sanctions. The United States has given Iran until today to accept the council terms before increasing calls for an arms embargo.

But the five permanent members of the council — Britain, France, China, the US and the Soviet Union — are attempting to turn the Iranian invitation to their own advantage by providing the Sec-

retary-General with a clear directive that a peace mission be conducted solely on the terms of the resolution and that Iran agree to the agenda in advance of the visit.

In addition, the five are anxious to defuse the conflict following the most concentrated assault on shipping in the week since the start of the seven-year war. Señor Pérez de Cuéllar will travel to Iran and Iraq only under the guarantee of a total ceasefire during the time of his stay.

Blood penance for martyr



Young Shia Muslim boys marching in procession yesterday through Nabatiyah, southern Lebanon, to mark the feast of Ashura. As penance for the 7th-century martyrdom of Hussein, grandson of the Prophet Muhammad, followers beat their heads until the blood flows.

US rebuilds links with Syria

From Juan Carlos Garmucio, Beirut

After 10 months of absence, Mr William Eagleton, the American Ambassador to Syria, was back in his office in Damascus yesterday. He is the most visible feature of Washington's intention to normalize its links with President Assad in the hope that better bilateral relations could help the case of Americans held hostage in Lebanon.

Mr Eagleton's return on Wednesday night was a low-key event. The Syrian press barely reported it, and the ambassador himself declined to talk to journalists.

The Syrians were undoubtedly happy to see him again because it is likely that Mr Eagleton's presence in Damascus will contribute to softening the West's stand towards Syria. One Syrian official said that the Government, which until last year was accused of sponsoring terror-

ism, "had witnessed with satisfaction the return of US-Syrian relations to normal".

Mr Eagleton's return has been described as "a measured response to positive steps" undertaken by the Syrian Government. The Americans had welcomed President Assad's decision to expel members of the Abu Nidal Palestinian splinter group, and have praised Syria's efforts on behalf of eight Americans who are among more than two dozen foreigners still in the hands of Lebanese extremists.

The Syrians have, indeed, a record of trying to obtain the release of foreign hostages but with a variable degree of success. The Americans thanked Syria after Mr Charles Glass, the American television journalist, regained his freedom in Beirut last month, although Mr Glass

said he had escaped from his captors and that he was never aware that Damascus had played a role at all.

The Syrians, obviously aware of the expectations that Mr Eagleton's return to Damascus has inevitably provoked, especially among the relatives of American hostages, hinted on Wednesday night that there was no solution in sight yet.

Instead, they staked an early claim to credit for what a Syrian officer described as the imminent release of the two West German hostages. Employees of SANA, Syria's official news agency, telephoned foreign news agencies in west Beirut to offer a report which quoted a Syrian officer as saying that Damascus was expecting the release of the two West Germans "soon". SANA did not identify the officer.

Canadians annoyed by Chirac

From John Best, Ottawa

M. Jacques Chirac, the outspoken French Prime Minister, has stirred up controversy in Canada with comments which many here are interpreting as interference in Canadian affairs.

At Montreal City Hall earlier this week, on his way to the International Francophone Summit in Quebec, M. Chirac warmly recalled President de Gaulle's famous "Vive le Québec libre" speech made on the same spot 20 years earlier. President de Gaulle's utterance of the rallying cry of Quebec separatists drew such a rebuke from the Canadian Government of the day that he cut short his visit.

But M. Chirac said he thought it was a good speech, adding: "It helped Quebec quite a lot to be known all over the world, and reinforced links between France and Quebec."

M. Chirac also denounced the defence policies of Canada's New Democratic Party, saying that they betray a sincere but naive neutrality. The NDP — which for many months has been leading all other parties in national opinion polls — advocates Canadian withdrawal from Nato.

Mr Ed Broadbent, the NDP leader, noted that his policies were similar to those adopted by France 20 years ago when it pulled out of Nato's integrated military structure.

Canadian newspapers have attacked M. Chirac for his interventions.

Paper says a Kurd shot Palme

From John England, Bonn

The Swedish secret police have discovered that Mr Olof Palme, the late Swedish Prime Minister, was murdered by a Kurdish "hit man" with a gun smuggled into the country by a Syrian diplomat, a Turkish-language newspaper in West Germany claimed yesterday.

The newspaper, *Hurriyet*, named the killer as Hasan Hayri Guler, a member of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) who was now in Syria.

The Swedish police had found that Guler was part of a PKK group that travelled to Stockholm via Denmark with orders to kill Mr Palme, the paper said. A Syrian diplomat based in Bonn and code-named "Best" had smuggled the gun into Sweden, and a Swedish man was also involved, it added.

Mr Palme's death, the paper said, was a revenge killing. A party meeting in Damascus had sentenced him to death because it held him responsible for the death of a militant PKK member in Uppsala, Sweden, in June, 1984.

OSLO: Swedish reaction to the story has been cool, with far less media coverage than in neighbouring countries (Tony Samstag writes).

Mr Ingvar Eriksson, a spokesman for the team investigating the murder, said: "In the past I have chosen not to comment on speculation in the Swedish press. Why should I comment this time on a foreign newspaper article?"



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Wrongs of reading Wright in Dubai

From Robert Fisk, Dubai

At a time when one might have thought it had more pressing concerns in the Gulf, the British Government is considering legal action against a small English-language newspaper in the United Arab Emirates of Dubai for having the temerity to publish extracts from *Spycatcher* by the former MI5 agent, Mr Peter Wright.

The *Gulf News* yesterday printed a second series of extracts from the book across three pages of its colour section, provoking a telephone call from Mr Jolyon Kaye, the British Consul in Dubai, who has been instructed to report on the matter to the Foreign Office in London.

Strangely, Mr Kaye telephoned not the

editor of the *Gulf News*, Mr Bikram Vohra, who is an Indian, but the general manager, Mr Patrick Hayland, who is British. While unwilling to comment on the matter, Mr Kaye confirmed to *The Times* yesterday that he had contacted the *Gulf News* about its serialization of the Wright memoirs before preparing a report for the Foreign Office.

"I called the paper," Mr Kaye said, "and told them: 'I've been reading your series with interest — you have been stirring it up, haven't you?' They said they took careful political and legal advice before publishing. The purpose of the call was to find out what was happening, so I could report to the Foreign Office."

Asked if British officials had also contacted the Sharjah Book Centre, Mr Kaye replied: "My admirable information officer telephoned them and asked for a copy, but was told they had run out." The Book Centre had earlier attracted publicity in the local press by stocking the American edition of Mr Wright's mem-

oirs, from which the *Gulf News* is drawing its extracts.

The appearance of *Spycatcher* in the Gulf is unlikely to raise much interest among Arab notables whose principal concerns, like that of Mr Kaye, are the gravity of the "tanker war" and the increase of foreign, including British, warships in the area. It is said within the expatriate British community that British diplomats are viewing the possibility of legal action with something approaching embarrassment. Mr Kaye — an affable and courteous Consul, who has helped to maintain the traditionally good relations between Britain and the Emirates — would not disclose his views, except to say that he was "no legal eagle".

Mr Haywood was not available for comment at his home yesterday afternoon, while all his editor, Mr Vohra, would officially say that "as of now, we are continuing to run the series". The paper has so far published extracts from seven of the 28 chapters in the memoirs.

Threat to Central America peace deal

Amnesty plan splits Sandinistas

From David Gollob, Managua

Senior members of the Nicaraguan Government came into open disagreement on Wednesday over how to interpret the amnesty provisions of a Central American peace agreement, as hardliners reiterated that the fundamental achievements of the Sandinista revolution were not negotiable.

In the first public split within the Government since the accord was signed in Guatemala last month, the

New York — Mr Brian Willson, an anti-war activist whose legs were sheared off by a munitions train outside a naval base in Concord, California, during a protest on Tuesday against US policy in Nicaragua, has vowed to keep up the fight for his cause (Charles Bremner writes).

"I've joined the legion of kids in Nicaragua without legs," Mr Willson said after surgery on Wednesday. As well as losing both legs below the knee, he suffered a skull fracture. President Ortega of Nicaragua sent a message of condolence, and said: "The Nicaraguan people are moved." Mr Willson's wife, Holly, said she wanted "everybody around the country to stop these death trains".

Nicaraguan Interior Minister, Comandante Tomas Borge, was contradicted by Vice-President Sergio Ramirez, who on Tuesday promised that an amnesty would be extended not just to rebels who laid down their arms, but also to prisoners convicted of anti-government activities.

"The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of the Interior are studying the matter, but so far nothing has been decided," Comandante Borge said. "Personally I don't be-

lieve there are any political prisoners."

However, he added: "In the context of the peace negotiations we could acknowledge political prisoners, if required to by the judiciary and political interests." He said Nicaragua had nearly 9,000 prisoners. More than 1,000 were serving sentences for "counter-revolutionary crimes" and about 3,000 were former members of the ex-dictator Anastasio Somoza's National Guard. The rest were common criminals, he said.

Comandante Borge, the only surviving founding member of the ruling Sandinista Front, is seen as a hardliner with close ties to Cuba and other countries in the Soviet bloc, many of which have sent advisers to help him run Nicaragua's intelligence services, police and prison system. Vice-President Ramirez is considered a moderate more sympathetic to the West.

Comandante Borge said political considerations might lead to the release of "some people". Nicaraguan opposition parties and the Roman Catholic Church are pressing for a "total amnesty".

Speaking to journalists on the eighth anniversary of the founding of the Sandinista Army, Comandante Borge said that the basic principles of the Sandinista revolution were not negotiable.

"Are we going to pay the price of 50,000 lives and then give up the revolution? Impossible. I believe we have to make concessions, and we have made some important ones, but not concessions of principle."

These views were emphasised even more strongly in a speech by General Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister.



Comandante Tomas Borge, the Nicaraguan Interior Minister, left, and General Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister, at a Sandinista army celebration in San Jacinto this week.

"We will continue to defend the conquests of the revolution in this process of negotiation," he said. "We are the enemy of those who wish to destroy revolutionary

change." General Ortega said Nicaragua would continue to reinforce the peace process "first and foremost on the battlefield."

The Guatemala accord would oblige Nicaragua to restore democratic freedom by November 7 in exchange for a ceasefire and a simultaneous halt to US sponsorship of the Contra rebels.

Nicaragua hit by cutbacks in aid and oil supplies

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Moscow and Eastern bloc countries appear to have reduced substantially aid to the left-wing Government of Nicaragua, whose small economy is being ravaged by the war with the US-backed Contras.

Western diplomats here believe the Soviet leadership has decided to avoid the sort of long-term economic commitment it has had with Cuba over the past 25 years at a cost of billions of pounds.

Several Western countries that have aided the Sandinistas are also curtailing assistance, primarily for economic reasons. Latin American countries have also slashed aid, sending shock waves through Nicaragua's already beleaguered economy.

The Soviet Union and East Germany have bluntly told the Sandinista Government that they believe some previous aid has been misused, a fact surprisingly revealed in the official Sandinista newspaper *Barricada*. Senior Henry Ruiz, the Minister of Foreign Co-operation, told the newspaper that he regarded such complaints as "legitimate".

There are no official figures, but US government and independent analysts here agree that aid from the Soviet Union, East Germany, Romania, Cuba, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Poland has declined overall over the past year. Credits and grants from the Soviet bloc have been running at an estimated \$400 million to \$500 million (up to £300 million) a year.

But the greatest blow has been Moscow's decision to reduce drastically the amount of oil it sends to Nicaragua. Since 1985 it has supplied virtually all of Nicaragua's oil, but last May the Sandinista

Government was told that it would receive only part of this year's requirements because of "supply problems". Soviet bloc countries are expected to provide 570,000 tons of oil this year, 200,000 tons less than the minimum amount.

Sandinista leaders travelled throughout Soviet bloc countries in June and July in a vain search for new aid. They also went to the oil-producing countries of Iran, Iraq, Libya and Algeria, but without success.

Mexico and Venezuela, the biggest oil producers in Latin America, have stopped selling petrol at concessionary prices because Nicaragua has failed to meet payments. Bonn, which once gave substantial aid, no longer does so. France has slashed assistance. The Netherlands has cut back aid, and Spain and Italy have declined to increase their limited economic support.

Although the Contras have demonstrably failed to achieve the primary military objectives set when they launched their war six years ago, they have clearly been instrumental in bringing the Nicaraguan economy to its knees by relentless attacks on targets like pylons, electricity sub-stations, bridges, roads and pipelines.

About half of Nicaragua's budget is now spent on defence. The Reagan Administration is convinced that the chronic state of the economy is the reason behind the sudden willingness of the Sandinistas to enter into peace negotiations. Inflation is running at between 700 and 1,000 per cent. This week the Sandinistas doubled petrol prices and announced that the petrol ration would be cut from 19 gallons to 17 gallons a month for private vehicles.

Man held in South Korea for 'spying'

From David Watts, Seoul

The South Korean Government has arrested a man it suspects of being a spy for North Korea. He is alleged to have had contacts with opposition politicians.

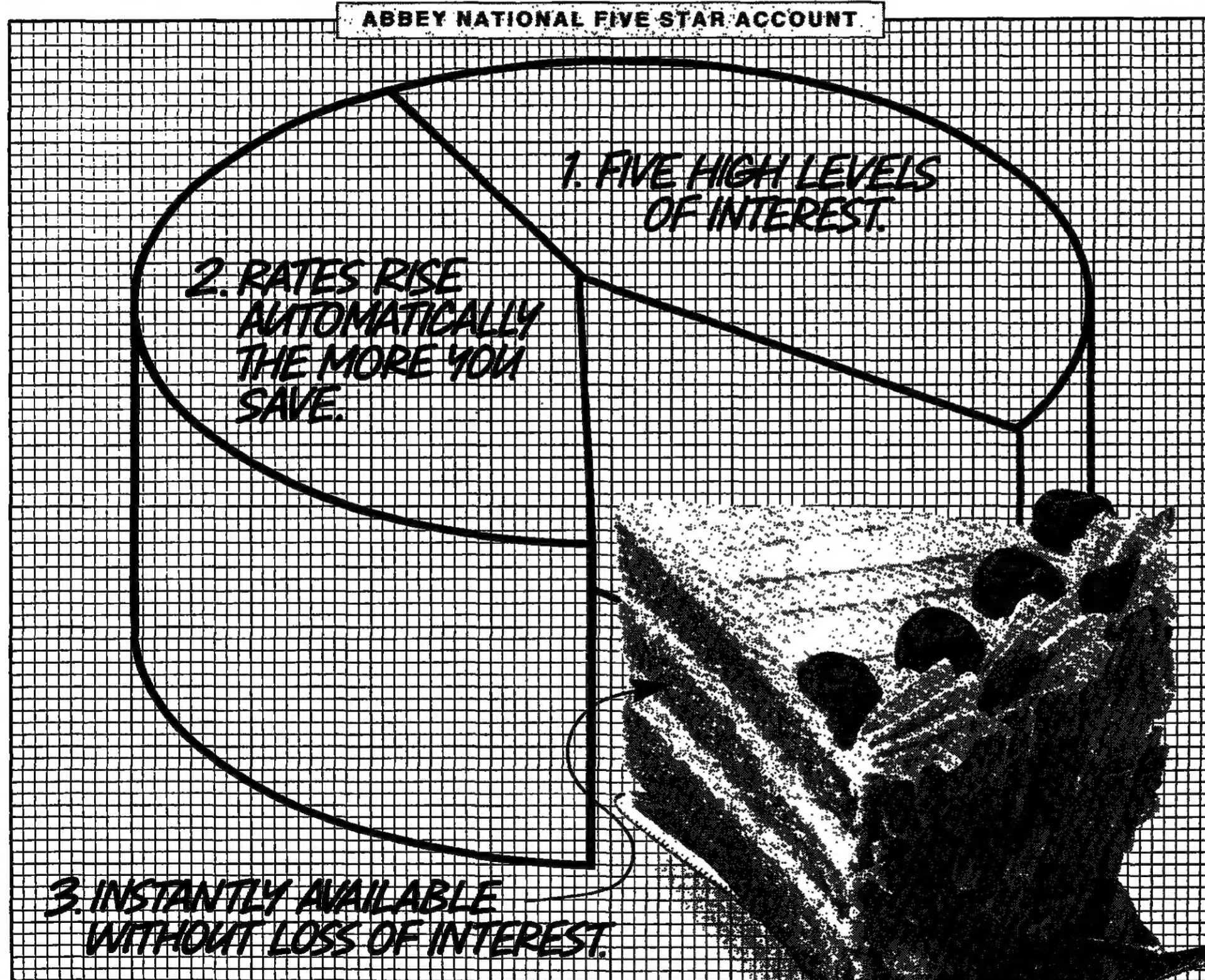
A government spokesman said he expected that the man, named Chang, would be charged with espionage. Mr Chang is said to be connected with Chosun, an association of Koreans in Japan sympathetic to North Korea.

The Government has not named the party with whom the man is alleged to have infiltrated, but the announcement comes at a time when the Government is consistently warning against the threat of terrorism, has arrested people it blames for fomenting labour unrest, and has resumed surveillance of its opponents in the National Council for a Democratic Constitution.

Both President Chun Doo Hwan and his Prime Minister have said that "leftist subversives" threaten the reforms now under way in South Korea. But many see a backlash developing from some of those around President Chun at the speed and scope of change, particularly since the current state of labour disputes, which some think are running out of control.

Mr Kim Dae Jung, of the New Korea Democratic Party, said in an interview with *The Times* that the Government appeared to be stepping up its intimidation of the opposition to prevent the formation of a movement similar to the National Movement for Free Elections in the Philippines, which successfully monitored the last two elections under the Marcos regime and pinpointed election fraud.

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US arms control choice

Alarmed right will try to block Nitze

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan has decided to appoint Mr Paul Nitze, his veteran arms control adviser, to head the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Administration and congressional officials were yesterday quoted as saying. But anxious conservatives appear to be making a last-ditch effort to reverse the decision by lobbying instead for retired General Edward Rowley.

The *Washington Times*, a conservative paper, said that Mr Reagan decided last week to name Mr Nitze, aged 80, to succeed Mr Kenneth Adelman, who resigned in July for personal reasons. Mr Nitze, a distinguished diplomat and former chief negotiator in Geneva, is currently Mr Reagan's senior arms control adviser.

He is at present on holiday in Maine, and his office could not confirm whether he had been offered the job or whether he would accept it. If he is named, this would represent a triumph for arms control advocates and an important signal that President Reagan now accepts the importance of arms control.

There is widespread speculation, however, that the right wing, already angry at President Reagan's concessions in trying to obtain an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) agreement, will mount a campaign to block Mr Nitze, now regarded by many as too liberal.

There have been well-placed leaks that they would prefer General Rowley or Mr Ronald Lehman, a senior negotiator for strategic weapons. Up to a dozen hardliners at the agency are said to be ready to resign if Mr Nitze takes over, and General Rowley might also leave his post as special adviser to the President.

On August 6 nine Repub-

lican senators wrote to Mr Reagan recommending General Rowley's appointment, saying that Mr Nitze was too soft in negotiating with Moscow.

Mr Nitze has spent 45 years in government service as an arms specialist and has long been regarded as a hardliner. But conservatives have been angered by his less than enthusiastic endorsement of



Mr Nitze: accused of being too soft with Moscow.

the Strategic Defence Initiative and his recent cautious optimism that new arms agreements with Moscow were possible and in the United States' interest.

Conservative activists have called on him to step down as Mr Reagan's special adviser. They note that he contributed \$1,000 (£620) to the campaign of Senator Tim Wirth, a liberal Colorado Democrat who strongly supports arms control and was elected in November.

The *Washington Times* reported yesterday that Mr Reagan made his choice at his California ranch after consulting Mr Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, and Mr Frank Carlucci, the National Security Adviser. But Administration officials could not confirm this.

Uphill task for police in Tamil provinces

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

The Sri Lankan police are discovering that enforcing the law in the Eastern province, where Tamil guerrillas were in control of some areas before the Indian-Sri Lanka accord, is not all that easy.

Virtually all police stations in the Northern province, where the guerrillas were dominant, were non-functional, while those in the east were virtual fortresses where few dared to enter.

On Tuesday the police resumed patrols in the Eastern province town of Batticaloa. They stopped two motorcyclists who were not wearing helmets, as prescribed by law.

When asked to produce driving licences and proof of ownership, the men said they had no documents with them. When the officers asked the men to accompany them to the police station, one of the men, Mr Joseph Sabesan, a mem-

ber of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, threatened to swallow the cyanide pill hanging round his neck.

But they were finally taken to the police station. Soon afterwards, about 20 motorcyclists surrounded it and demanded the men's release. When their demand was refused, the mob threw stones at the police, who retaliated by firing tear gas. The Indian peacekeeping force explained to the mob that the police were only doing their duty.

In another incident, seven men transporting weapons, which is prohibited by law, were arrested in Pettuvil, near Batticaloa.

Residents threw stones and tomatoes at police, rescued the men, and freed the van. The mob later attacked two shops in the town, and again it was the Indian peacekeeping force which had to help restore the peace.

السنة الأولى

Fijian leaders begin their search for path towards unity

From Stephen Taylor, Suva

Almost four months after a military coup destroyed Fiji's reputation as the last of the islands in the South Seas, the islands are trying to pick a way back to parliamentary rule. A great deal of negotiation remains before that can be achieved, but a meeting scheduled for today has brought the post-coup phase to a vital new crossroads.

Dr Timoci Bavadra, the deposed Prime Minister, is due to emerge from his sanctuary in western Viti Levu to meet for the first time since the coup with Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, his predecessor, who many believe was implicated.

They will meet with delegations to consider whether they can work together towards a government of national reconciliation.

The meeting will be chaired by Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, the Governor-General, in the desperate days after the May 14 coup, Ratu Ganilau assumed executive

authority from Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka, and has since ruled the country with a council of advisers.

A rough grouping helps to explain a still volatile equation following the military's action, which was aimed at wresting political power from the ethnic Indian majority and restoring it to Fijians: Dr Bavadra can speak for the ethnic Indians; Ratu Mara speaks for traditional Fijian society and the military.

The first question about today's meeting is whether it can reach agreement on the composition of five new committees, drawn from both parties, which have been proposed by Ratu Ganilau to lay the way to a government of reconciliation.

So far, a stumbling block has been Dr Bavadra's refusal to sit on Ratu Ganilau's council of advisers. Dr Bavadra has maintained that he should still be Prime Minister. He flew to London after the coup, where he tried

without success to see the Queen, and he still has an application before the Fiji Supreme Court to have his dismissal declared invalid.

The Alliance Party has insisted as a precondition for the meeting that Dr Bavadra should drop the action. He has replied that he is "content to ignore" the demand.

However, the most contentious issue for discussion is the review of the constitution proposed by another of Ratu Ganilau's committees.

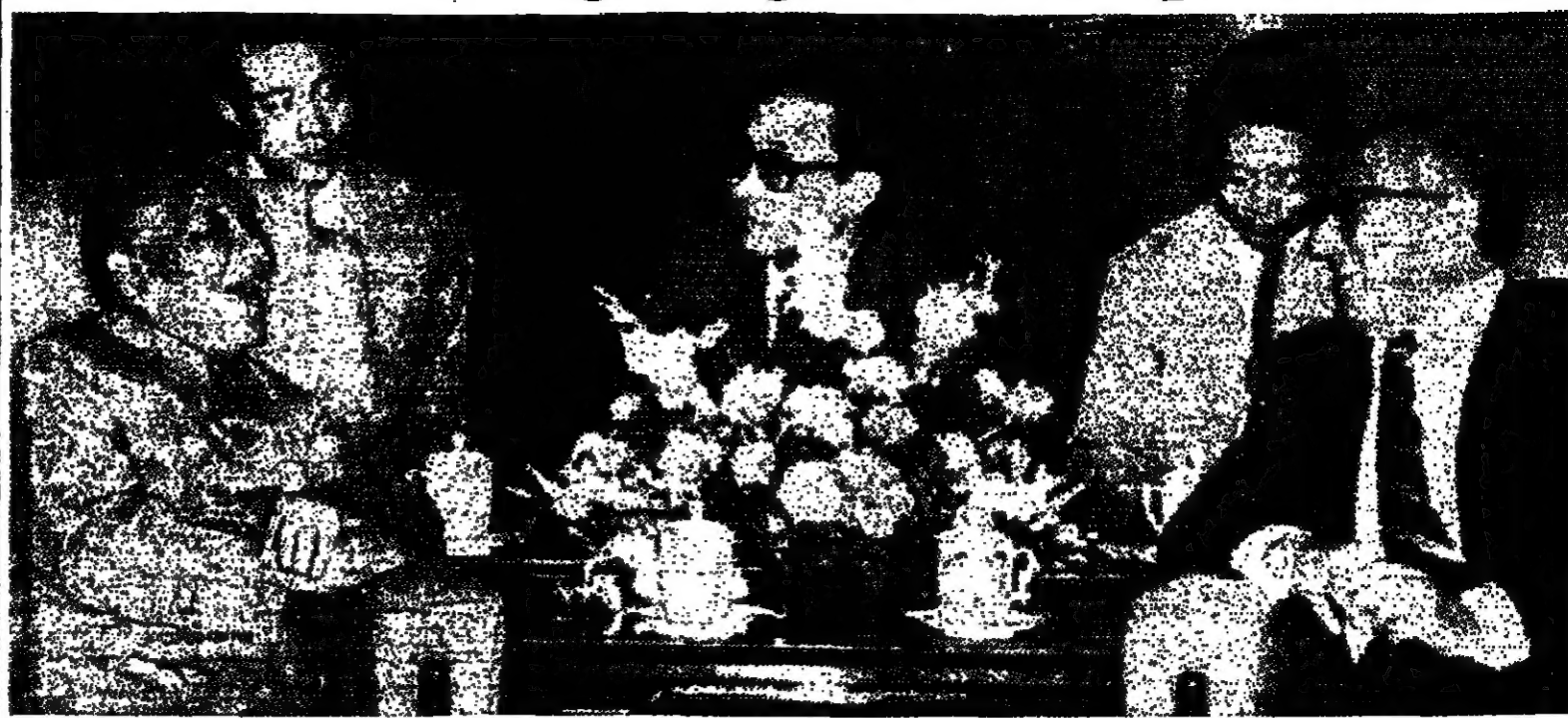
The key recommendation is for a one-house Parliament which would reserve a majority for Fijians. The 71 seats would have 41 for Fijians, 22 for ethnic Indians and eight for other races. The office of Prime Minister and the portfolios of foreign and home affairs and finance would be restricted to Fijians.

A minority report by Dr Bavadra's representatives on the committee said the review was "thoroughly abhorrent" and would reduce ethnic Indians to "third-class citizens".

However, observers now see it as essential that the intense pressure which has been on the Governor-General since the coup should be relieved.

"It has been a one-man show for all this time," one source says. "The Governor-General has been under pressure from the Army, from the radicals of Taukei, and from the Great Council of Chiefs. It is essential that we now get some movement forwards in a political direction."

Elder statesmen get together for a private chat



Dr Henry Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State, chatting with the Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, in the Great Hall of the People in Peking yesterday. Dr Kissinger, who is on a

nine-day private visit to China, said in a lecture that Moscow's economic reform programme posed dangers to other countries, whether it succeeds or fails (Reuter reports). "If it is a

success, a strong Soviet Union is not self-evidently an unalloyed blessing unless it changes its foreign policy," he said. "If it is a failure, there would be a great temptation to use the one branch

of activity in which the Soviet Union has been undoubtedly successful, the military, to improve its security in some direction before its economy becomes hopelessly outclassed."

World Bank charts the obstacles Peking faces

From Robert Grieser, Peking

Although China's economy is growing by 10 per cent a year, it will be hard-pressed to boost its flagging agricultural productivity or effectively reform its price structure, Mr Moen Qureshi, a senior vice-president of the World Bank, said here yesterday.

"China can't open the floodgates on price reform until other factors, such as the mobility of labour, are liberalized," Mr Qureshi said.

When asked if the central Government's recent raids on speculators and small businesses that operate without licenses was the way to solve inflation, Mr Qureshi referred to the question to Mr Edward Lim, of the bank's Peking

office, who replied: "It's a short-term solution."

Mr Qureshi is visiting China for the first time in his new role as senior vice-president in charge of the bank's operations. The World Bank currently lends China \$1.5 billion (£909 million) a year for a variety of programmes, and may increase that to \$3 billion in the next three years.

So far this week Mr Qureshi has met Miss Chen Muhua, chairwoman of the People's Bank of China, Mr Zhao Ziyang, China's Prime Minister and acting general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, and Mr Yao Yilin, a senior Deputy Prime Minister.

"China is no longer a sleep-

ing giant," Mr Qureshi said at an informal press gathering yesterday morning. "Its leaders are well-versed in the country's problems and tremendous progress is being made."

Nevertheless, the Chinese economy faces some serious challenges, Mr Qureshi said. To make sure that the growth in agriculture does not slow, Peking must apply more technology to farming techniques, improve the marketing of farm produce, and allow farmers to diversify into crops with higher values.

In industry, said Mr Qureshi, China must streamline organizations and management systems, and address the

recurring problems of lack of power and transport bottlenecks.

Finally, China must make sure that it is employing "a cohesive framework" of economic and financial policies.

In agriculture, Mr Qureshi said, Chinese officials were contemplating a scheme under which small plots of land now divided under the successful responsibility system would be leased out to form bigger plots on which farm machines could be used to boost agricultural productivity, which has begun to level off after achieving spectacular gains in this decade.

The farmers left landless as

a result of the scheme would be employed in rural industries. The key to the programme would be the right of farmers to sublet their land. Mr Qureshi said, though how this aspect of the plan would work in practice was unclear. The experiment is being tried out in Anhui province, and eventually may be carried out in 13 east coast provinces.

Mr Qureshi also said that China may be moving towards a system of enterprise management under which managers would bid for the right to run factories. In the past two years there has been a great debate over whether factory managers or local party bosses should control factories.

Economic reaction to Philippines unrest

Shares slide as investors panic

From Michael Hamlyn, Manila

Stock market prices in the Philippines slumped again yesterday after a brief rally — an indication that last week's coup attempt has engendered panic among potential investors in the country.

Almost all the leading chambers of commerce and investment banks contacted by reporters here have made it clear that the present instability is a disincentive to investors at a time when investment is regarded as vital to the expansion of the economy. Expansion is seen as an essential way of fighting left-wing discontent among the millions of poor Filipino farmers and out-of-work urban poor.

Mr Christian Roehr, the Secretary-General of the European Chamber of Commerce, said: "Especially in Europe, there is an impression that things are not under control."

Although the Philippines was once regarded as the economic leader of South-East Asia, the Marcos years caused such devastation that the gross domestic product per capita in 1986 had fallen to the 1974 level. By comparison, the GDP per capita in Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia trebled over the same period.

President Aquino's Government had begun a significant climbback, and real GDP grew in 1986 by 1.1 per cent — little enough, perhaps, but a good deal better than the decline of the years from 1981 to 1985. Mr Aquino was helped by a swelling of those commodity prices on which the economy of the Philippines is unhealthily dependent. These increases, especially in the price of copra, boosted the country's income, and a minor gold-rush in Mindanao also helped.

Much of the increased income went into consumer spending — a similar windfall in Malaysia went into savings. Overall, sales for the year rose by 27 per cent. One unsubstantiated report indicated that sales this August were 70 per cent higher than in August, 1986.

Economists point out that developing countries cannot make do with a consumer-led boom; they must have an export industry to create real jobs, and the building of such an industry requires outside capital investment.

One analyst suggested that it need not be foreign investment, however. There are many Filipinos who hold large (if surreptitious) stocks of dollars, the

repatriation of which could do much to boost local industries.

The Philippines economy has much room for development today, with its industrial capacity seriously underused — some estimates say as much as 50 per cent of capacity is lying idle and rusting. The Philippines has an educated (and English-speaking) workforce available for recruitment, and Asian Development Bank officials point out that they have developed good skills in electronic assembly.

British investors have been advised that the Philippines could be a profitable source of income, provided assets can be kept liquid enough to allow rapid removal during any renewed crisis.

But a survey by the US stockbroking firm of Merrill Lynch suggested that investor confidence was a key problem even before the coup attempt. The company's chairman for the region, Mr Michael Dobbs-Higginson, said the coup attempt contributed to a "wait and see" attitude among foreign investors.

Another commentator, writing in the Manila daily *Malaya*, declared that "business could be one of the biggest victims of the coup attempt".

Two die in student clashes

Dhaka — Two students were killed and 150 others wounded as police were called out yesterday to quell a wave of student riots which have swept state-run colleges across Bangladesh over the past four days, authorities said (Ahmed Fajz writes).

Islamic fundamentalist and left-wing student groups fought with shotguns, knives and home-made bombs in Carmichael College in northern Rangpur town, where two days of rioting left one dead and 30 others wounded.

Flood deaths

Lérida (Reuter) — Three children died and three others were missing after their car was swept away by a flash flood near this northern Spanish town, police said.

Airport theft

Toulouse (AP) — A gang of robbers shot at an armoured car at the airport here, wounded three employees and got away with an estimated 25 million francs (£2,500,000) in cash, authorities said.

Aids mask

Bilbao (Reuter) — Firemen here will be equipped with special masks for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation after one tried to revive a woman infected with Aids, Bilbao's fire chief said.

Routine check

Metz (AFP) — A driver, aged 48, from Bouzonville, eastern France, picked up in a routine police check, drove for 27 accident-free years without the compulsory insurance cover, gendarmes said here.

Mid-air drama

Toulouse (AFP) — A British charter plane made an emergency landing here after a drunken passenger made repeated attempts to open one of the plane's doors in mid-air.

Masters of papal wardrobe hold key to Vatican secrets

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The Pope's most intimate secrets are safe with the Gammarelli family. Somewhere, securely locked up, the master tailors of the Vatican have the full physical statistics not only of the current Pontiff but of all his predecessors since the Second World War.

Despite the secrecy, however, diligent foot-in-the-door investigations by *The Times* reveal that the present Pope has a big head, like size 62, compared to the average head of 56.

Gammarelli's, around the corner from the Roman Pantheon, is a good starting point to tap the informal Vatican information network. They are not just simple tailors. If you have been sizing up cardinals since 1793, and above all listening to their sermons, you get to know who is *papabile* — Pope material.

Before a conclave, the tailors pool their intelligence and come up with a list of *papabile* cardinals. These are then divided into three basic physical types and the vestments are prepared for that crucial first appearance in St Peter's Square.

Signor Massimiliano Gammarelli, the youngest in the family management, says: "We have never got it wrong." But his rivals — the area around the Pantheon is thick with clerical outfitters, though none have the papal blessing — reckon that the Gammarellis were wrong-footed by the unusually large frame of Cardinal Giuseppe Roncalli who, when he stepped on to the Vatican balcony as Pope John XXIII, had to keep his clothes together with safety pins.

The servants know first, and the tailors soon afterwards. The valets of the Vatican are organized according to a strict pecking order, reflecting the importance of their masters. At the top, the valets of perhaps five cardinals can call themselves *commendatore*, the valets of lesser cardinals are addressed as *professore*, and others lower down the scale are called *capo* or *signora*.

Valets have been compared with football team managers: their responsibility is to get their masters up, shaved, breakfasted and into work before eight o'clock. Then, typically, a valet will buy provisions in the cat-price Vatican supermarket and pharmacy, tank up the car at the Vatican garage, perhaps stop for a coffee at the Swiss Guards' canteen, pick up a new sack at Gammarelli's and meet fellow valets during the siesta. A good valet, say insiders, passes on what he has found out to his master while serving dinner that evening or during the morning's shave.

Not that Gammarelli's is a Viennese *kitsch* shop. It is all very serious. Heavy with tradition and with the sense that

the fate of the Catholic world rests in their nimble hands. Those who want more ribald company seek out the *trattorias* of the Vatican Radio journalists. But one sees the point of the sedate Gammarelli's. Dress is not merely a flimsy extra in the Vatican, it is a mark of rank; the Vatican is the only state in the world where the size of one's hat and the colour of one's socks define one's place in the hierarchy.

Six Popes stare down from the walls, every photograph personally signed apart from that of John Paul I, who died before he had time to thank his tailors. In the shop they are rather proud of the Polish Pope, who has won at least one of those famous prizes for the world's best-dressed men. They make his lightweight, pure-wool suitcases, the uniform of the travelling Pope and a far cry from the time when cardinals used to wear the far-lined copper *magnum* with an eight-yard train.

Pope Paul VI scrapped most of the pomp in 1963. It is still possible to buy a monsignor's old-fashioned broad-brimmed felt hat, but the traditional heavy vestments are not available anywhere. The Pope's mitres, which come in for servicing after his more grueling pilgrimages abroad, are finely stitched with gold thread, but the colourful embedded stones are not genuine; this is the cost-conscious we-are-on-the-brink-of-bankruptcy Vatican.

The tailors say that the Vatican pays its bills on time, but the only man to pay for anything during his last visit was a youthful Englishman. Father David Barnes, from the Westminster archdiocese, clothed in a Lacoste T-shirt, said he had decided to buy a real cussack at last — "other places around the corner might be cheaper, but the quality shows here. This, after all, is the Pope's tailor."

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SPECTRUM

User-friendly unionism

As the delegates prepare for next week's Trades Union Congress in Blackpool, Andrew Lycett examines how the unions have adapted to dwindling membership and power

THE GMB

Since retiring from British Telecom in 1985, 50-year-old Norma Cockburn has run her own part-time engraving business. Three months ago, concerned about complications in ordering a new £2,300 engraving machine on approval, she answered a local paper advertisement offering free legal and financial advice. She was surprised to be contacted by an official of the GMB, the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union.

"I had no idea it was a union at first," she recalls. "They were absolutely marvellous. They put me in touch with a solicitor who advised me on my legal position about the engraving machine. They found me an accountant who helped me with some book-keeping. They told me of grants I could apply for, worth 40 per cent of the price of the new machine. They even helped me find new suppliers."

Mrs Cockburn was being assisted by the new self-employed unit operating in the GMB's northern region. The unit is a radical departure for the union, a direct response to declining membership (down 25,000 to 814,000 last year), which has prompted it to reassess and overhaul the way it approaches, recruits and represents its members.

On a superficial level, the GMB has simply changed its image — taking on what, if it were a multinational company, would be called a new corporate identity. The Jenkins Group, a design consultancy with customers like Lamborghini and the National Westminster Bank, was hired for a fee of £35,000 to fashion a new logo. Out went the union's old-fashioned mouthful of an acronym, GMBATU, and its long-standing slogan, "Unity is Strength" — redolent of macho conflict and trade union struggle. In came the new slim-line initials, GMB, picked out in orange throughout the union's carefully coordinated and expensively packaged literature. Two match-stick figures now straddle the letter M hand-in-hand. A comradely but andy new motto, "Working Together", runs below.

The union's general secretary, John Edmonds, observes: "Our studies showed we were regarded as old-

fashioned, middle-aged and male-dominated. Now we appear gentler and jollier."

Underlying this cosmetic change is a sophisticated assessment of the direction the union must take if it is to survive into the 21st century. As traditional areas of recruitment like municipal services and engineering contract, the GMB — the third largest union — has targeted low-paid, largely non-unionized workers such as women, part-timers and the self-employed.

Old-style confrontational unionism cuts little ice here. So Edmonds has called for a new type of official, skilled in low-key organization and recruitment rather than adversarial negotiation.

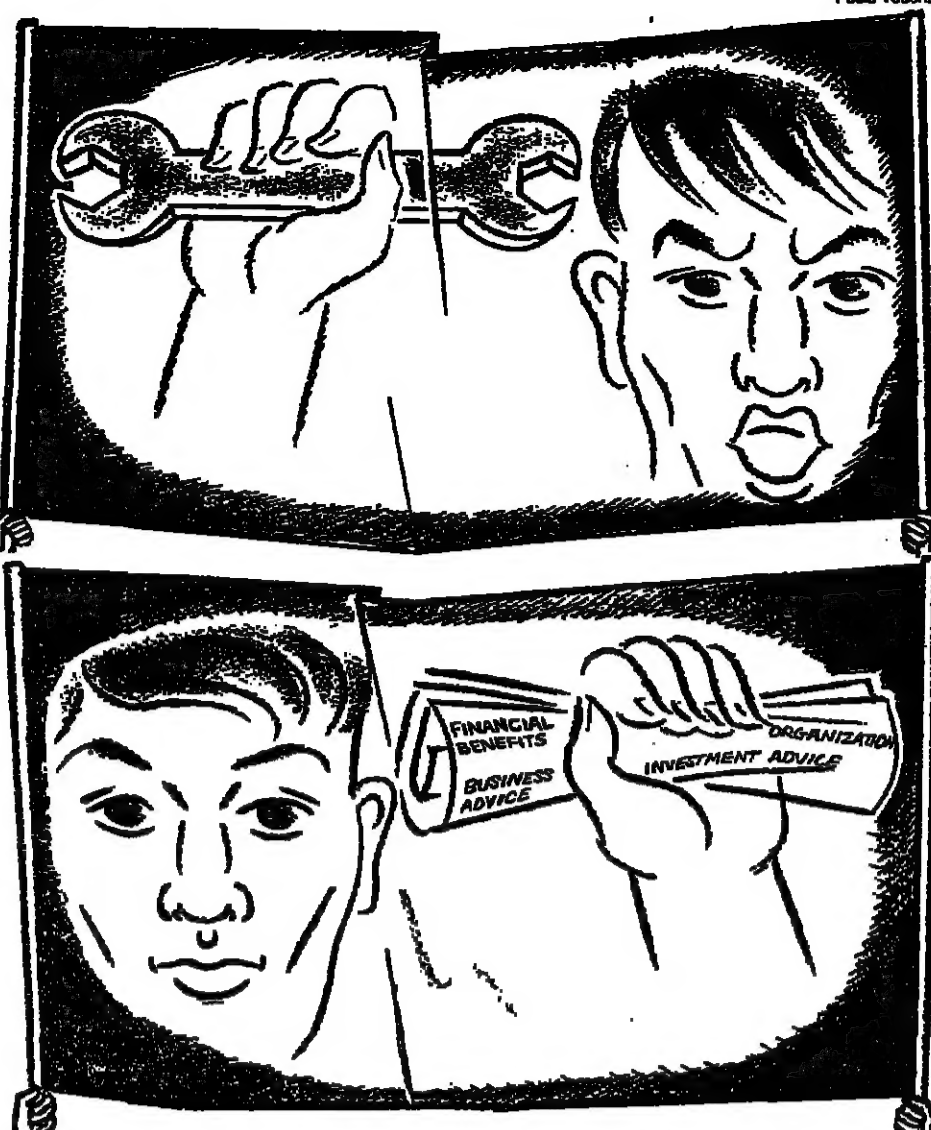
"Make no mistake," he says, "the future lies not with negotiation, but with the recruiter and the organizer. If we do not recruit new members, the GMB will follow many other unions into the dustbin of history. We have to alter the priorities of the organization — to change, in effect, the habits of a generation."

Edmonds dismisses the financial packages offered by rival unions. "If you're trying to recruit a hotel porter or contract cleaner, it is insensitive to give advice on how to invest £10,000. And anyone can get a good discount on insurance. We want to provide something else — lifetime support both inside and outside the workplace."

With its high proportion of workers made redundant from traditional industries, the GMB's northern region is the ideal testing ground for an element in this approach. In the past six weeks its self-employed unit has attracted 150 new members, offering them not only access to solicitors and accountants but also more mundane facilities such as typing, photocopying and phone-answering.

Many of its recruits are women, who now make up a third of the union's numbers. The GMB is keen to increase this proportion. It recently reserved a quarter of the seats on its executive for women. It has launched a hard-hitting action plan to reverse what it claims is a £15 billion "rip-off" of women denied the same pay and financial benefits at work as men.

With its efforts to soften and even feminize the GMB's image and methods, John Edmonds could not wish for a better reference than Mrs Cockburn's unsolicited observation. "I think of it not as a union but as a friendly advice bureau," she says.



THE EETPU

The electricians' union, the EETPU, is spending £6 million on a Georgian country mansion, set in 312 acres of Sussex countryside. It intends to turn the estate into a holiday centre, complete with a swimming pool and an 18-hole golf course, for its 350,000 members.

A short break at the centre will be yet another perk offered by the union in its attempt to halt an alarming decline in numbers. Needing 60,000 recruits a year just to stand still, it needs to make union membership so attractive that members positively want — and cannot afford not — to remain in its ranks.

The EETPU is therefore in the vanguard of what is sometimes pejoratively termed "business" or "market unionism" — using its corporate muscle to negotiate benefits away from the workplace for its members. "We take the view that we're a large organization," says union general secretary Eric Hammond. "It makes sense to use our size on behalf of our members in the same way that we do in the industrial situation."

In its recently expanded headquarters on what was once William Pitt's estate in

Kent, the EETPU employs a full-time benefits officer, Alan Pickering, to liaise with the building societies, insurance companies and finance houses.

In January the union launched its Moneywise scheme, offering members discounts of between 5 and 20 per cent on holidays, cars and insurance. Motor insurance is provided by General Accident, which expects to write 20,000 new policies by the end of 1988. Members can also consult a stockbroker and insurance broker. "They may need advice on how to invest a legacy or redundancy money," Pickering says.

Through the Leeds-based insurance broker Rattray Duffner, the union has set up a subsidiary, West Common Financial Services, to arrange mortgages, pensions and life insurance. Members' mortgages are guaranteed at the Halifax Building Society. If they want to save, they can invest (at a discount) in an M & G unit trust.

Pickering sees such financial services as an extension of the EETPU's craft guild traditions and of more recent friendly society benefits covering death, sickness and disability.

But as these benefits were eroded by inflation, members fell prey to financial charlatans. Pickering says

Moneywise helps weed out sharks, while offering wage-earners houses ordinarily available only to salaried white-collar workers. "Let's face it, most people join a union for what they can get out of it," he adds.

At one stage, the EETPU tried to introduce private health insurance, but union pressure forced it to back off. Pickering says he also looked into credit and discount cards, but decided against "encouraging members to take on debt" because of the bureaucratic problems involved.

As further steps to its members the EETPU offers free legal advice, comprehensive training and £31-a-head mini-weekends at its residential college in Surrey. It has some way to go before offering discounts on funerals, vegetarian blinds and hotels, like the Furniture, Timber and Allied Trades Union (FTATU). But it claims its membership decline has bottomed out since introducing the Moneywise scheme.

"We had some stick from rivals like the GMB, who accuse us of being inward-looking and materialistic," Hammond says. "But they do the same things, only not as well or as openly. What we do today, others do tomorrow. We're a dynamic organization, and we think our members work better as a result."

THE TUC

Delegates to the 119th annual Trades Union Congress in Blackpool on Monday will debate at least two motions calling on the TUC to take a more active role promoting union membership.

So steep has been the decline in overall union membership (down 342,432 in one year to just over nine million in 1986) that one motion (from the GMB) suggests the TUC should create a fund to finance special organization and recruitment campaigns. The proposal will be fiercely fought by other unions unwilling to give up power to the centralizing clutches of the TUC, particularly in the sensitive area of recruitment.

The motion indicates the dire straits of the union movement, beset with not only falling numbers, but also apathy within its ranks and a generally negative image among the public.

Individual unions have responded to this crisis with their own initiatives. Generally, either they have opted, like the electricians in the EETPU, to build up numbers and consolidate their own authority by offering members a range of financial benefits and other perks, or, as with the GMB, they have attempted, more traditionally, "to extend the frontiers of unionism", recruiting and organizing among the "new under-class" of part-time workers, women and the self-employed. Some, like the AEU, the second largest union, have toyed with both. It dropped the "cumbersome" letter W from its title two years ago, and has a comprehensive package of financial benefits "tailored to meet the needs of the average bloke".

The AEU says this is nothing new. It has always provided "a social package". Miners' leader Arthur Scargill predictably dismisses these attempts to evolve a "new realism" as "new collaborationism".

In Blackpool TUC members will find that the general secretary, Norman Willis, has his own proposals for improving unions' image, organization and recruitment. He has been looking wistfully at measures adopted by the TUC's American equivalent, the AFL-CIO, which last year launched its own low-interest credit card. One million members now use it.

In July Willis wrote a concise, confidential discussion paper for the TUC's Employment Policy and Organization Committee. This questioned whether the TUC could not follow suit, exploring "the scope for an attractive benefits package based on the potential market of nine million trade unionists and their families."

Detecting the cheats

Two British scientists believe that new ways to check nuclear weapons could bring an arms agreement closer

Nuclear glasnost appeared to take a small step forward this week with the announcement that Moscow would consider allowing the United States to install a hi-tech monitoring system at Soviet test sites. The move highlights the increasing attention being paid, as the cold war thaws, to the problems of making sure the other side does not cheat.

As hopes rise for a negotiated agreement between the superpowers, two scientists working from half an upstairs room above a cafe off the Strand could just be on to a winner. Jeremy Leggett and Patricia Lewis are specialists in verification, and they believe it holds the key to a quick halt to the arms race.

Verification has always been one of the biggest single obstacles in the path towards an agreement with the Russians. Without adequate means of monitoring joint compliance with its terms, a treaty, it is said, is hardly worth the paper it is written on.

Leggett founded the Verification Technology Information Centre (Vertic) towards the end of 1985 and started operations a year and a half ago. A lecturer in earth sciences at Imperial College London, he spent 10 years as a "highly focused academic" before a visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki started him thinking about the practical application of science to arms control. Vertic was the result.

With a £53,000 grant, spread over three years, from the Rowntree Trust (and additional help from Cadbury's), he set about establishing a non-political source of information about arms control technology for the benefit of Parliament (MPs are regularly briefed) and the public.

Patricia Lewis, a nuclear physicist with a doctorate from Birmingham, worked for a time at a rehabilitation centre for disabled children in Calcutta, then taught in universities in New Zealand and Australia, before joining Vertic as information officer last year. She now shares a second-floor office in Southampton Street with a computer software firm.

They are alive to the remaining limitations. Patricia Lewis, for instance, dismisses some of the myths which have arisen about satellites. Claims that one can read the brand name on a cigar from an orbiting space platform are confounded by the facts. At best, the most sophisticated K-12 satellite can define objects down to 30 centimetres across.

They are full of praise for the Foreign Office's work in

trying to promote a ban on chemical weapons. But they are sceptical about the caution shown in Washington and Whitehall over a comprehensive test ban. Leggett believes that the lack of political will, rather than technological technology, now prevents a test ban treaty.

Technologies already exist to answer some of the questions. Using a technique called neutron activation analysis, for example, the contents of a missile warhead can be checked by passing a beam of neutrons through it, then analysing the neutrons and gamma rays released. This is particularly relevant to sea-launched cruise missiles, which can have nuclear or conventional warheads.

Then again, missiles can now be "tagged" scientifically by giving each one an electronic or some other kind of signature as identifiable and



In control: Lewis and Leggett immovable as a finger-print (in theory, at least). An official inspection team could tell which new weapons have been added, or changed.

Lewis acknowledges that no system could be absolutely foolproof. "But it probably does not need to be. It is rather like a radar trap to catch speeding motorists. If they think the police are around, most motorists slow down anyway."

Vertic is not in favour of signing treaties without "adequate" verification, though. Lewis says that what they are really working for is increasing investment in research — without which, progress towards agreements will remain tortuous and slow.

Leggett and Lewis have managed to enter into debate with both the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence and are in contact with the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston and American defence laboratories like the Lawrence Livermore. And even the Soviet embassy has been known to pick their brains.

Henry Stanhope

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Rambo with a tail

Only the toughest kites will survive the Rokkaku Challenge

Kite-flying is usually a gentle way of spending a blustery Saturday afternoon. It is not a pastime which springs to mind in the context of martial arts.

But *rokkaku*, Japanese fighting kites, are 8 foot-tall giants, vividly painted with warlike motifs, which rustle on the thermals, trying to force each other out of the sky. They have been scrapping away in Japan for at least 300 years, and now there is a British Rokkaku Challenge, with the last of four rounds being fought out tomorrow and Sunday at the Bristol Kite Festival at Ashdown Court, Bristol.

"Teams line up on one side of the arena," explained Jon Bloom, who founded the Kite Society of Great Britain 11 years ago. The society now

boasts 1,000 members, a 25 per cent increase in one year. "Once they're all flying and stable, the idea is to either cut the other person's flying line or to knock their kite down — the rokkaku is fairly unstable when it's not flying in its normal mode, so if you come up underneath and tip the bottom corner it will twist and start diving to the ground."

The hexagonal kites are so big it takes at least two people, and usually four or five, to control one. In America there is one team of 13. Tomorrow 12 teams will line up, bearing such names as The Falcon, Jorvik (from York), Dongola

Dons, and the favourite, Peacock — which happens to comprise a family from St Albans called Peacock. They have already met at Blackheath, York and Shrewsbury.

"It's certainly caught the attention of the kite-flying fraternity, and it's helpful because it can attract sponsorship," said Martin Lester, who introduced rokkaku here and is one of Britain's growing band of professional kite-makers. Sponsoring this event is the Kite Store, in Covent Garden's Neal Street. "It's a competitive thing that people can quickly identify with," Lester added.

The British version is a good deal more gentlemanly than some, he said. "In Japan there are slivers of glass in the line, or little hooked blades; in India they use ground glass-coated lines, and in Thailand they use a combination of nooses and flying hooks, like talons. The reason we don't use them in this country is safety — not for the fliers, who know what they're doing, but for the public. If the technique is right, one line will cut through another anyway."

The kites are mostly made from fibreglass and the light and tough nylon used to make parachutes, which means they can last for ages. The button-thread lines are the main casualties. A rokkaku kite can cost anything from £15, if you make it yourself, to £200 if you buy it from Martin Lester.

Next year Britain will help organize the first international rokkaku competition, in France, at which Lester believes our new enthusiasm will present a considerable challenge. "Toko-kichi is the real word for us: kite crazy."

Simon Tait

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CONCISE CROSSWORD No 1352

ACROSS:
1 Mail capital (6)
4 Colorado capital (6)
7 Uncommon (4)
8 Abrupt dismissal (8)
9 Friendly understanding (7)
11 Twisted hair lock (5)
12 First World War German leader (6,7)
15 Brief time (5)
16 Argument (7)
20 Impoverished (8)
21 Nautical speed unit (4)
22 Votes counter (6)
23 Energetic worker (6)

DOWN:
1 Friendly violent (7)
2 Distinction (5)
3 Sphere of influence (5)
4 Smeared (4)
5 Infirmary (6)
6 Ship's repair (5)
10 Wanting (5)
11 Hopping Bohemian dance (5)
12 Unbeliever (7)
13 Master of art (7)
15 Bones junction (5)
17 Evaluated (5)
18 Main Italian port (5)
19 Expensive (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1351

ACROSS: 1 Embark 4 Season 9 Absence 10 Eager 11 Only 12 Immense 14 Fleet Street 16 Placebo 19 Tout 22 Annual 24 Reality 25 Ledger 26 Enzyme
DOWN: 1 Elam 2 Basin 3 Runnymede 5 Ere 6 Spring 7 Natter 8 Puits Four 11 Off 13 Mark Twain 15 Learned 16 Tot 17 Sprawl 20 Unity 21 Kyle 22 Lie

SATURDAY

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Roy Perry, from the Times, at work on a 1957 driftwood sculpture by Margaret Mead

Fading fortunes

The old masters worked in oil. New masters often work in leaves, chalk, bundles of straw and broken crockery; they paint on the back of the canvas or on photographic paper. It may be art, but will it last? Tomorrow *The Times* looks at the problems of modern restoration

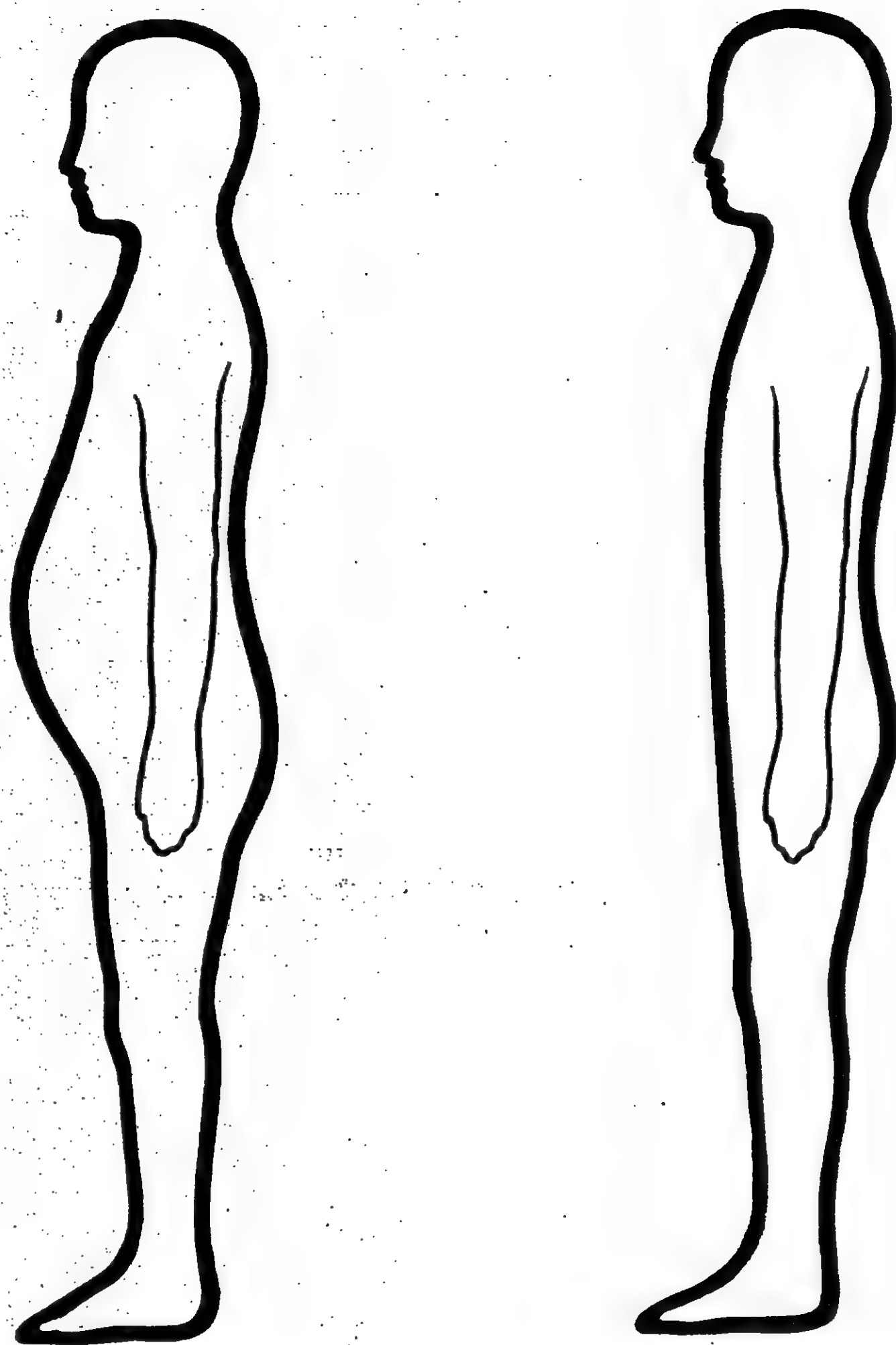
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THE TIMES DIARY

Absent friends

If the nomination list for Labour's deputy leadership is anything to go by, Roy Hattersley has lost 49 friends in the parliamentary party in the past 12 months. A mere 59 MPs have put their names to his (unopposed) nomination, compared with 108 last year. The annual beauty contest contains one surprise: amid Hattersley's dwindling roll of proposers is the unlikely name of Alan Meale, the former secretary of the hard-left Campaign group. The list of NEC contenders, out on Sunday, ends speculation that Joan Ruddock, MP for Deptford, will stand in either the constituency or women's sections. Though she has embarrassed the Kinocks, who count her a personal friend, by joining Ken Livingstone's call for left unity, I understand she may have succumbed to local party pressure not to stand, so allowing further-left candidates a chance.

Take note

Two new Labour MPs are heading for a clash with the Transport and General Workers Union over the salary they are offering their joint, full-time secretary: £9,000 a year for someone with "excellent" shorthand and audio-typing skills. Andy Charles, the T&G's parliamentary branch secretary, has written to the *New Statesman*, in which they advertised, and the box number to complain that the offer, well below the union's recommended rates, is a "bitter blow" to the campaign for better pay. Charles told me yesterday he had received no reply from the as yet unidentified MPs, who said in the ad only that they represent Scottish seats. But their anonymity may not be preserved for ever. Before the recess MPs voted to ensure that MPs' staff contracts were lodged with the Commons' less office.

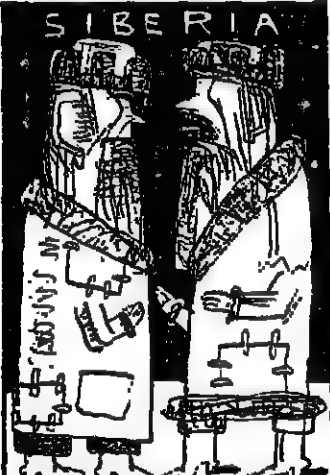
Circus act

Part of the housing agenda that Westminster city councillors failed to reach on Wednesday night because of heckling from protesters angered by plans to sell council housing was a move to spend £2.5 million on a walk-in "home-ownership advice centre" to encourage still further sales. Opposition councillors claim that the Tory leadership had originally considered an office just off Piccadilly Circus for the job.

Spaced out

Blue-wrapped *Natural States* calls itself the "ultimate video". Not to be judged by its colour, it is, in fact, the latest American intensive stress treatment. Fast-living yuppies are supposed to unwind their jangled nerves with the compilation of soothing music combined with equally soporific footage of bubbling waterfalls, sluggish rivers and awesome mountainscapes. Less fattening than a gin and tonic, I suppose.

BARRY FANTONI



"We could use a teenage pilot - he might fly us out of here"

Upping Ulster

Charles Haughey, the Irish PM, is clearly putting the Northern Ireland issue high on his agenda this autumn. To this end he has recalled Dermot Gallagher from his post as ambassador to Nigeria to head the Anglo-Irish division at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin. Gallagher was press officer at the London embassy in the 1970s, and his new job is seen as a Haughey signal to No 10 that questions over extradition and the Diplock courts should be sorted out by the year-end. Perhaps they will be, now that Haughey and Mrs T have put the difficulties over the Falklands and the prison H-blocks behind them at the Brussels EEC summit in June.

Perfectly clear

An attempt to bounce Graham Leonard, the Bishop of London, into leading a breakaway church for Anglican traditionalists, opposed to women priests, has backfired. An American group calling itself the United Episcopal Church of Maryland had suggested that he would announce his leadership of a "symbolic spiritual union" of ex-Anglican traditionalists when he delivers the Fulton Lecture at Westminster College, Missouri, later this month. The college fell for the ruse, even calling a press conference, but Leonard, who has never heard of the group, has told the college that the information is wrong. Furthermore, he has told the local bishop that he will be visiting his parish: a clear sign that he is having no truck with the breakaway group.

PHS

Put pupils on a package

by Teresa Gorman

The thousands of holidaymakers who have been stranded, frustrated and angry, at airports this year are not only the victims of Spanish air traffic controllers intent on using them as a bargaining counter in wage negotiations. They are victims too, although they may not realize it, of British educational tradition.

The reason that millions of us flock abroad in August, when continental temperatures are at an uncomfortable peak, the beaches are packed and the airports overflowing, is that our school system is geared to the ancient need of harvesting. Two of our largest industries, education and tourism, still dance to the tune of medieval manorial life.

Even the school syllabus is arranged to suit a rural existence which now affects less than 5 per cent of the population. School work begins in autumn and builds to a climax of examinations in June and July. It is a brave parent who dares to insist on taking the children out of school in March or April. October or November, when travel is easy, accommodation cheap and the weather from the Algarve to the Aegean is just about perfect.

Flexi-holidays would make more sense in the 20th century. They would depend on re-arrangement of the school syllabus into packages, which would be studied as and when convenient.

Modern technology has already given us the means. Videos, audio-cassettes and transparencies need only the guiding hand of a tutor rather than formal lessons and class teaching. This method is already widely practised in primary schools - everything from medieval history to modern machinery is studied in packages. In the private sector, the home-study industry has for long packaged its products for the convenience of the customer.

Flexi-holidays would do more than rob the trade unions of their annual chance to cause international mayhem. They would revolutionize the holiday industry, now crammed into a couple of months each year. The household budget would benefit greatly from lower off-season fares and cheaper accommodation. A hire car on the Algarve, which costs £100 a week in August, can

be had for £50 a week in May. Working mothers, for whom the long summer break is a nightmare, would no longer have to put their children into playgroups, paid for by the ratepayers. Two-mile traffic jams on the approaches to the West Country and the Lake District would be a thing of the past. Landladies from Blackpool to Brighton need not sleep under the kitchen table in August to cram in enough trade to keep them solvent for the rest of the year.

Kenneth Baker has declared his intention to reform the school curriculum and raise standards. He has already set up study groups for mathematics and science to lay down tighter controls of content in an attempt to thwart the malevolent effects of poor or politically motivated teachers. Although well meant, it is a move in the wrong direction.

Trying to standardize the curriculum is the equivalent of saying we can attend whichever restaurant we like so long as we all eat the same food. The best route to improving standards would be to introduce more variety and

competition. We should seize the opportunity to re-arrange the syllabus into flexible packages.

Our inspiration should be the computer software industry, which has burgeoned in response to new markets. The growth of video shops and the recording business is our insight into the way the new educational packages might be offered to the public. There really is no need to sit behind a school desk all day in order to acquire an education.

Under the present system a reluctant school pupil can get trapped with a boring teacher for a whole year, learning (or not) a subject which might seem irrelevant. How much better it would be if he could go to an educational "shop" or library, take out the packages which interested him, and sit the examinations when he feels ready to take them.

There is no better way to put power back in the hands of parents. And it would give birth to two industries: flexi-holidays and flexi-education, to meet the needs of our modern, affluent world.

The author, *Conservative MP for Billericay*, spent two years as a teacher with the Inner London Education Authority.

Charles Bremner on the coming clash between Pope and Catholic America

Vatican flock unpenned

New York Pope John Paul II embarks next week on a 10-day tour of the United States that will present one of the most delicate challenges of his pontificate so far. With the exception of a final stop in Detroit, heartland of the old Catholic working class, he will travel only in the southern and western states from Florida to California, greeting for much of the time the growing and loyal Hispanic flock who now account for 11 million of the church's 53 million members in the United States.

When he paid his first visit to the US in 1979 he was given a rapturous reception. This time he will find a church that is thriving but which is also moving dangerously far from the authority of the Vatican. American Catholics, from the laity to many bishops, question the Pope's conservative teachings and resent his recent attempts to discipline dissenting clergy and theologians.

Because of the acrimony the visit is creating within the church, many progressive Catholics say it would be better if he stayed away. The Rev Richard McBrien, professor of theology at Notre Dame University, says the trip will give "the wrong impression that he is the only one who is responsible for the church", while some traditionalists are worried that the Pope will provide such a target for demonstrators that the trip will be remembered principally for discord.

Protesters, mainly non-Catholics but including some disgruntled clergy, are planning to air their grievances along the Pope's route, and particularly in San Francisco, where he will speak on sexual issues and meet Aids patients. The change in Catholic attitudes is the inevitable corollary of changes in the Catholics' standing. From a minority community, mainly of comparatively recent immigrants, Catholics have moved into the mainstream of American society. On average they are better off and better educated than Protestants; their families are smaller than they once were. *Fortune* magazine recently found that 19.1 per cent of the country's managing directors were Catholic, compared with only 17.6 per cent who are Episcopalian - the "Wasp" denomination that has long dominated the American establishment. In the 1964 election John Kennedy's Catholicism was a big issue, but the fact that four of the current presidential



Chris Priestley

contenders are Catholic is hardly ever mentioned.

American Catholics go to church more often than those in most European countries, but their education and affluence, along with greater lay involvement in local church affairs, has brought a strong reluctance to accept unquestioningly the sovereignty of the Vatican. On the whole, American Catholics believe they can disagree with the Pope's teachings and remain loyal - a fact borne out by some startling opinion polls ahead of the papal visit. *Time* magazine, for example, found this week that 93 per cent believe they can disagree with the Pope and remain good Catholics.

Dissent is most startling on sexual issues. Only 24 per cent believe contraception is wrong and only 29 per cent disapprove of pre-marital sex. More than three quarters believe that divorced Catholics should be allowed to marry in church. More than half accept abortion in certain circumstances and 27 per cent approve of it on demand. Just more than half

also believe that women should be ordained and priests allowed to marry. In a survey last year, a majority of 145 bishops questioned thought that priests no longer believe in priestly celibacy.

In many areas the clergy has responded to the more tolerant social climate by ministering to avowed homosexuals, allowing remarriage of divorcees and frequently refraining from enforcing other official teachings that the laity finds unpalatable.

But far from all American Catholics favour the emergence of such "cafeteria Catholicism", as the critics call it. Conservatives such as Cardinal John O'Connor of New York believe that certain doctrines must transcend the temporal climate, no matter how unpopular they may be, and that disobedience undermines the church.

The Pope's problem is how to hold the allegiance of the church's richest and one of its most influential branches while retaining respect for the primacy of Rome. It is widely accepted in the church that John Paul has little liking for

modern US society, or at least its materialism, and there is talk of a spirit of anti-Americanism in the Vatican.

His strategy so far has been to reassert orthodoxy in the senior hierarchy by appointing conservative bishops and by mounting a limited counter-attack on prominent dissenters. About 15 new bishops are ordained each year, but a majority of the 387 members of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops are still counted as liberals.

For the American bishops, the most chilling episode in the counter-offensive, directed by Cardinal Ratzinger, the Vatican's chief enforcer of orthodoxy, was the censure of Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen of Seattle last year. The Vatican reduced his powers after accusing him of tolerating a mass by homosexuals, dispensing too many marriage annulments and other offences. His authority was later restored, but only after much tension between Rome and the US bishops.

The church is also trying to curb the liberal theologians. The Rev Charles Curran, professor of moral theology at the Catholic University of America, is now appealing in a Washington court against a Vatican order to sack him from his job.

The bishops will have a rare chance to talk privately with the Pope at a meeting in Los Angeles. In his 50 public speeches, he is highly unlikely to mar the warmth left for him personally by rebuking a local clergy or laity.

Church officials are emphasizing the celebratory side of his tour, which is expected to attract a turnout of millions from the Sun Belt and from across the border with Mexico. They say the Pope's desire for conciliation was shown by his meeting in Rome this week with American Jewish leaders who had been angered by his reception of President Kurt Waldheim of Austria. The Pope will meet senior Jewish figures when he arrives in Miami on Thursday.

Far from agonizing over doctrine, American souvenir makers are cashing in. They are already doing brisk business with T-shirts and items such as "Pope on a Rope" soap, lawn-sprinklers with the inscription "Let us Spray", "Pope-corn" and Pope-masks. But the prize for poorest taste probably goes to the town of Carmel in California, whose mayor is the actor Clint Eastwood. A poster there shows a planned meeting between the two with the legend "Thou Hast Made My Day".

unavailing debate. Although quotas on dairy production are acknowledged to have been more effective than most people expected, there is a general resistance both in Brussels and among EEC member governments to extending them to other commodities.

The situation is complicated by the fact that priorities vary greatly between different countries. While "efficient" agricultural economies, like the British and the Dutch, can tolerate a steady decline in the number of farmers and farmworkers, even though this may mean considerable hardship at local level, the French, the Germans and the Mediterranean countries continue to insist that the survival of their millions of small farmers is politically, economically and socially paramount.

Even within a strictly British context, taking land out of production does not automatically mean a gain to the non-farming public in terms of access and recreation. A field left fallow instead of being used to grow wheat or barley does not overnight become a valuable nature reserve; left uncultivated, it will revert to useless scrub.

In the upland areas, which are the most fertile for recreation and tourism, livestock husbandry is the bedrock of land management. There may be scope for persuading hill farmers to play a more active role in encouraging public access and, in so doing, to diversify their own incomes, but to force them to abandon their holdings would be disastrous. The Wars or one's favourite brand of unsweetened bramble jelly, the Don't Knows form a powerful body of no-opinion. They just need a little discipline and theol-

John Grigg

The late arrival of Mary Jane

Feeling, recently, the need for escapism literature, I found myself reading Sapper's *Bulldog Drummond At Bay*. Published in 1935, near the end of the author's life, it is not particularly good; but it is, in some ways, a curious and revealing document of its time.

The menace of war pervades the book, and a sinister Jewish financier is depicted as the possible arbiter of when and how it will break out. His political philosophy is summed up in a notable exchange with a senior British civil servant who calls on him secretly at his hotel:

"Governments today can be divided into three categories: dictators, knaves and fools. You have no dictator in England, and... Well, what would be the result, Sir James, if I offered you half a million down, here and now, if you would pursue some line of action dictated by me?"

"I should be shocked and horrified, sir."

"Precisely. But there are many other countries where a man in your position would be shocked and horrified if that offer was not made. And so we are only left with the third category."

The financier evokes the terrors of aerial bombardment - like anti-Semitism, a flavour of the period: "Just before you arrived, Sir James, I was standing in the window looking out over this great city of yours, and in my imagination I heard the drone of an attacking air fleet. I saw the holocaust below. It was no trumpet raid such as you experienced in the last war, and by which, so it would seem to the onlooker, you still set your standard. They were up there by their hundreds and the raid itself was the actual declaration of war."

The only way to prevent the catastrophe is to have at least equivalent power to retaliate. But that the British do not have and - Sir James indicates - are not prepared to pay for. The conversation helps the financier to crystallize his thoughts:

"Was the time right? A hundred different factors had to be weighed in the balance; a hundred conflicting interests taken into consideration - interests that overlapped and interlaced in a way that made their mutual reactions well nigh incalculable."

It is unfortunate, to put it mildly, that the all too justifiable warning about British weakness should be combined, in the book, with the figure of a cynical Jewish plutocrat owing no allegiance to any country or to the elementary laws of humanity. But such flawed thinking and feeling was not uncommon in the Thirties, and helps to explain why Hitler was able to get away with so much.

As a commentary on the period these extracts have a melancholy resonance. But even more intriguing is a passage in which a familiar problem of our own time is disconcertingly anticipated. One character is telling another of a drug "that breaks the strongest nerve" and announces it as some-

thing entirely new and outlandish. Its name: marijuana.

"Known to drug addicts as Mary Jane, its effects are literally terrible. As a general rule it is made into cigarettes, but it can also be administered subcutaneously. And after a while it reduces a man to such a pitiful condition of nerves that he ceases to be a man. He becomes a gibbering wreck, scared out of his life by the slightest trifle."

It is hardly surprising that the word "marijuana" should have been a novelty to Sapper, or that his description of its effects should have been so exaggerated. The word does not appear in the 1933 edition of the *OED*, or even in Paul C. Berg's *Dictionary of New Words in English* (1953). Indeed, the 1971 edition of the *OED* still does not deign to include it, though by then it was, surely, a household word in this country.

Marijuana is the North American (Mexican) name for a drug long known here as cannabis, hashish or Indian hemp. In Craigie and Hulbert's *Dictionary of American English* (1942) the first mention of it cited is from *Scribner's Magazine* in May 1894, to the effect that it was "used by discarded women for the purpose of wreaking a terrible revenge upon recreant lovers."

At the time when Sapper was writing *Bulldog Drummond At Bay* there was a scare about marijuana in the United States, which his lurid description of its supposed properties may well reflect. Ben Whitaker, in his fascinating book on drug addiction recently published (*The Global Connection*, Cape £16) tells us that in 1932 the US Federal Narcotics Bureau Commissioner, H.J. Anslinger, committed himself to a crusade to eradicate the "lethal weed", which he described as a cause of "murder, assault, rape, physical demoralization and mental breakdown", and as more dangerous than heroin or cocaine.

Directly or indirectly, some word of the Anslinger crusade may have reached Sapper in England. In any case, his view of the drug (and Anslinger's) is not widely shared today, though Whitaker shows that expert opinion on it is still not unanimous. His argument suggests that it might be sensible to decriminalize or even to license it, but not to legalize it fully.

Among experienced though not expert opinions he quotes that of Baudelaire, that "wine exalts the will; hashish annihilates it". To Rastafarians, on the other hand, hashish under all its names is a sacramental herb, whereas alcohol and tobacco are mere drugs. Rastafarians identify it as the "herb for the service of man" referred to in Psalm 104.

To Orthodox Christians the sacramental quality of alcohol may seem to be established by Christ's first miracle, and by the fact that bread and wine, rather than bread and water, are used for Communion. It is less easy for tobacco to obtain respectability from the Bible.

however... Henry Stanhope

The indecisive majority

What Britain needs is a fifth force in politics. Once again the country is in the grip of the big battalions, bitterly divided by their policies, personalities and ambitions. As always, the man in the middle is ignored as the parties sway to and fro across the political spectrum, locked in a fearsome battle for power and glory. I refer of course to the Liberals and the SDP.

It's always been somewhat the same, of course, though never quite as serious as this. At one time political opinion was polarized by the Tories and Whigs, depending on whether one belonged to White's club or to Brooks's. Then it was hijacked by the Conservatives and Liberals (the Carlton club or the Reform Club) and ultimately Labour (Central Wolverhampton Working Men's).

Now, however, it is dominated by those political party barons David Owen and David Steel, much as East London was ruled in the Sixties by the Richardson gang and the Kray brothers. These former electoral allies, joined by several hundred miles of Celtic fringe, who once struck such fear in the hearts and minds of Smith Square and Walsworth Road, have now turned their sharpened lances on each other.

But is their bitter enmity good for the nation? Is their dedication to outworn inflexible dogma what Britain is calling out for, as the 20th century enters its diminished? To take one example, the Liberals want to spend no more money on nuclear weapons, while the SDP wants to spend it on nothing else. Would it not be better if they were in favour of nuclear weapons one week and against them the next? It's the politics of compromise that we seek.

I am therefore reviving my idea, first proposed four years ago, of launching a Don't Knows party. I received numerous messages of support at the time from those in the political wilderness who were seeking a new means of expression. And as any poll will show, whether it concerns Sir John Gorton or the Labour Party, the Wars or one's favourite brand of unsweetened bramble jelly, the Don't Knows form a powerful body of no-opinion. They just need a little discipline and theol-

ogy to become a political force. We are the people who don't know whether we would like to see David Owen, David Steel, David Bowie or David Gower become prime minister - or, for that matter, England cricket captain. Do we like Mr Gorbachev more than President Reagan, less than Mrs Thatcher, or about the same as Mr Neil Kinnock? "Dunno" we mutter warily, backing away.

We do not know whether we are for or against the poll tax, whether smokers should have to apply for a special licence, or whether conscription should be reintroduced for those who drive around with their stereos turned up and their car windows down.

We have no instant opinion on the Duchess of York or Arthur Scargill, Jeffrey Archer, Peter Wright, Bobby Robson, Diego Maradona or Joan Collins. We do not know whether the Notting Hill carnival should be moved to the island of Guernsey, whether we like our hamburgers with or without onions or whether women's wrestling in mud should be designated an Olympic sport. We do not know whether we are in favour of M3, against M1, or even what it is. To us, such simple ignorance is bliss.

Now there was a time when the SDP looked as though it might become "our lot." It would create a land of *laissez-faire* peopled by those of civilized tastes and preferences. Mozart would be piped through the air vents, fine claret prowled through Cowley Street and a television channel would be devoted entirely to cricket. We would all live happily ever after in a spirit of political consensus.

Alas, it was not to be. Power tends to corrupt, they say, and lack of power tends to corrupt even quicker. As this week's conference demonstrated, the SDP has been overtaken by an all too familiar malaise. It has started to take itself seriously. Even the urbane Mr MacLennan could not keep a note of passion from his speech as he prepared his depleted army for the ritual of falling on its sword.

People of our non-persuasion would never do that. Or would we? I really don't know...

سكرا بن المرحون



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BACK TO THE HEYSEL

The decision to extradite 26 Liverpool football supporters to Belgium, to face charges relating to the Heysel stadium disaster two years ago, must be right. Their departure next week for the remand wing at Louvain prison will be painful for their families and will hardly provide much pleasure for anyone. But it will serve the cause of justice in both countries.

The months of waiting for those involved have been traumatic — and are by no means over. The trial is unlikely to start until the end of this year or the beginning of next, after further Belgian legal investigation. But the delay has reflected the difficulties of police work in two countries and, to some extent, the proprieties of a sophisticated legal code.

It is also the result of some ineptitude on the part of the legal authorities here in Britain. A technical blunder led last April to the High Court first quashing the extradition order. But this was part of a system of checks and balances whose primary function is to guard the interests of the individual, not the State.

The incarceration of the 26 in Louvain before the hearings start, will make visiting hard for their families. But conditions there seem likely to be much better than those in Wormwood Scrubs where the men have been recently held. There would seem to be generous facilities for exercise and recreation, and for regular communication with the outside world. This would probably have been the case anyway. As it is, with the critical eyes of Europe turned upon them, the Belgian authorities are leaving nothing to chance in order to see fair play.

This must also apply to the trial. The men's families and lawyers have argued that the hearing will be unfair, if only because the Belgians will be seeking retribution. They will be looking out for scapegoats on whom to pin the blame.

In fact, it seems more likely that the Belgians will feel themselves to be on trial — so intense will be the glare of the publicity. They will therefore strive to maintain the quality of their justice. The offer by 15 senior Belgian barristers to appear for the defence may not be

as altruistic as it sounds. But it exemplifies none the less the benefits which can accrue from such exposure.

There is too easy an assumption in this country that the British judicial system is incomparable. When British nationals are arraigned in courts abroad, it is inferred that they are especially hard done by. There are indeed parts of the globe, in the Soviet bloc and the Third World in particular, where one's suspicion of unfair prejudice is well founded.

But this is not necessarily so in Belgium, or our other major European partners. Their legal system is different from that in Britain, but there is no reason to suppose it to be inferior. Defendants may feel disadvantaged by not speaking the local language and by appearing amid strange procedures.

But this is a risk which applies to some extent to anybody journeying abroad. If football supporters object to being tried in foreign parts, perhaps they had better not travel there in the first place — or at least be on their best behaviour.

There has indeed long been a need to improve rather than impede the judicial conduit between this country and others in Western Europe. The new Criminal Justice Bill should help to do this by easing the legal requirements in Britain before a wanted man is extradited abroad.

It is clearly undesirable that people should be handed over for reasons of political expediency. Given appropriate safeguards, however, closer legal co-operation between London and Western capitals should serve the cause of justice, not obstruct it.

These are in one sense early days. The 26 Liverpool supporters are still innocent under the law. Not even the charges against them have yet been framed, although most seem likely to be accused of manslaughter. After the violence in the Heysel stadium two years ago, justice must not only be done but must be seen to be done. Their extradition is the best guarantee that it is done — and that European football can look to the future again, not its unhappy past.

AUTHORITY ON AIDS

The Government's new public health campaign to combat the spread of Aids is aimed specifically at one of the groups known to be most at risk, intravenous drug users. The last major campaign was criticized widely for being aimed too indiscriminately at the whole population, and for being too oblique and euphemistic. The present one is more deliberately targeted and explicit, even deliberately vulgar.

To complain first about too broad and remote a campaign and then about excessive vulgarity may make the Department of Health feel it really cannot win, that it might as well ignore adverse criticism altogether. That would be a mistake. On anything to do with Aids, the experts and everyone else still have much to learn. Any attempt to alter sexual habits, or in this case unsafe drug use practices, by public advertising is a journey into the unknown.

In the case of drug abuse, the targets of the campaign may be presumed to be well aware that they are bent on self-destruction anyway, with or without the additional risk of Aids. If they have not been deterred by the knowledge they already have, it is unlikely — but not impossible — that they will be deterred by news of an additional hazard. But the prospect of a rampant Aids epidemic through the entire population of drug abusers, estimated at more than 50,000, with a high risk of infection in a much larger and completely innocent fringe group, is so appalling that the Government is right to take the gamble.

That does not mean all semblance of dignity and decency must be thrown to the wind in desperation. One of the campaign's slogans which has already drawn criticism would be better dropped. It will give offence to many while giving nothing by way of additional useful information to the few. These anti-Aids advertisements need the common touch, but

they also need to convey that they are authoritative and that the warnings they contain are very serious indeed.

Aids is still far from being brought under control in the two groups statistically most at risk: homosexuals, and intravenous drug users. The first major advertising campaign was designed to warn of the dangers of sexual promiscuity, and although the medical evidence suggests Aids can be transmitted between heterosexuals as well as homosexuals, it was the latter which needed the message most urgently. But it was not thought advisable to transmit television advertisements aimed explicitly at that section of the population. This led to the absurd spectacle of the nation's old age pensioners and promiscuous homosexuals being all equally and earnestly urged to have "safe sex".

Now, there is some evidence, both here and in America, that an increased sense of responsibility among homosexuals is beginning to change sexual practices and habits which are among the most dangerous. Advertising campaigns are known to be a good way of implanting images, impressions and vague associations, but they are less good at conveying precise information.

Where both promiscuous sex and drug abuse are concerned, the associations likely to be perceived will be generally bad ones. The permissiveness of the pre-Aids era was fuelled by the idea that illicit sex and drugs were exciting, glamorous, and seemingly free of danger. Probably the most that can be hoped for from the Government's anti-Aids campaign is an end to that aura of glamour and a realization of new dangers. That may well turn out to be the most valuable of all the changes in attitude brought about by the fight against this deadly disease.

PANAMA'S BUSINESS PARTY

Until recently, Panamanian businessmen were better associated with a talent for making money than with devotion to democracy. During 20 years of military dictatorship, Panama has flourished and prospered as an offshore banking centre, with a higher income per head and a bigger middle class than anywhere in central America. Since June, however, commercial life has been interrupted by a series of demonstrations and protests started by the very class which might appear to have most to lose by upsetting banking confidence.

The country's businessmen have banded together to form an opposition movement, the Civilian Crusade. It is operating outside the framework of existing opposition parties and its aims are to remove General Manuel Noriega, the head of the defence forces, from his role as the country's effective dictator, and to institute democracy.

General Noriega emerged as Panama's military strong man in 1983, two years after the death of the populist — and popular — dictator General Torrijos. Although not particularly repressive by Latin American standards, Noriega is the target of many complaints, which range from his unprepossessing appearance to charges of corruption, assassinating political enemies and clinging to power by unethical methods. He is accused of rigging the elections in 1984, which were intended to remove the military from politics, and of having afterwards replaced one figure-head president with another.

In June these accusations were unexpectedly made public by Noriega's former second in command, Col. Roberto Herrera. This aroused middle class discontent. Since then, Noriega has adopted increasingly tough measures to deal with demonstrations on the streets.

Meanwhile, the economy is rapidly worsening as investors take flight and withdraw their funds.

The United States cannot but be interested in the situation. It has troops stationed in the Panama Canal zone. Indeed, the United States — for the sake of the canal — virtually created the country in 1903 by arranging for it to be lopped off Colombia. The US administration has already taken sides by withdrawing aid and endorsing the demands of the Civilian Crusade. This is partly because the US does not want to associate itself with a dictator who might soon be removed, and partly because, whatever its detractors may say, Washington encourages democracy abroad where possible.

But it could be unwise to write off the general too soon. His actions so far suggest that he is not yet in danger of losing his grip on the country's affairs. Until he is deserted by sections of the defence forces, his opponents lack the means to bring about his removal. Since he has done well by the military, in terms of sharing out the spoils of corruption, his officers are unlikely to desert quickly to the side of democracy. Moreover, the Civilian Crusade remains largely a middle class movement and a certain amount of popular sympathy still lies with the existing regime.

The general has now countered Washington by suggesting that it is backing his opponents because it intends ultimately to renege on the conditions of the Panama Canal Treaties under which control of the canal will be ceded to Panama in the year 2000. The danger of too overt an espousal of the opposition's cause is that the general may yet succeed in riding the storm, in which case the US will be left with a truculent and resentful general in its central American backyard.

Soviet view of missiles balance

From Dr Lev Semeiko
Sir, The article by Gerald Frost, Director of the Institute for European Defence and Strategic Studies in London (August 20), is incredibly biased.

The author claims that the USSR does not share the concept of strategic stability. This is untrue. The USSR is ready to give up both a sword and a shield — both nuclear and space weapons. The USSR is for nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in space which will predetermine strategic stability. The USSR is against endless talk about the need for such stability. Deeds are essential, and they are what it is seeking now in Geneva.

Gerald Frost maintains that the military balance keeps changing in our favour and that this is dangerous. Yes, the USSR has improved the balance, but it has not achieved military superiority by any means, and it rejects the idea of supremacy as such. It is ready to establish equal numbers for strategic delivery vehicles and warheads, and has proposed to the US a draft treaty on 50 per cent cuts in strategic arms.

The USSR is prepared to liquidate more medium-range missiles and warheads on them than the US. Besides, it is urging talks to reduce conventional and tactical nuclear weapons, and eliminate the existing disproportions and imbalances. But your author turns a blind eye to all this.

Mr Frost goes on to accuse both the USSR and the US of following

the road to a non-nuclear world. True, the USSR is really following it. But there is no reason to accuse the US of doing so, for it is just marking time. The US Administration wants not to eliminate nuclear weapons, but merely to reduce them to an "acceptable" level. The example of the 72 American nuclear warheads on West German Pershing-1As is rather convincing: the US wants to preserve them even if the USSR had no such warheads at all. But the USSR will not accept such an unfair approach.

Even more surprising is his description of the 72 warheads as a "big leaf". But this "leaf" equals approximately 2,000 Hiroshima bombs. This is why the elimination of these warheads would be important not only politically, but also militarily on the road to a nuclear-free Europe. But your author is against such a turn, and this is why he is sympathetic with Bonn which is allegedly becoming "blackmailable" by the USSR.

The article paints a horrible picture of the implications of the proposed zero-zero option. The author gives a brilliant reasoning in the vein of the old political thinking. But it is time to think in a new way in order to survive in the 20th century and after.

Yours faithfully,
LEV SEMEIKO,
Institute of US & Canadian Studies,
USSR Academy of Sciences,
Moscow, USSR,
September 1.

Aid to Contras

From Mrs Faith Tolkien
Sir, Apropos your leader of August 27, which upheld the morality of US aid to the Contras, I would like to point out that this aid has been ruled to be in violation of international law by the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

From reading foreign reports, I have the impression that the achievement to date of President Reagan's "freedom fighters" has been to bring deprivation and suffering to an already poor country; that the improvements made by the Nicaraguan Government in education and health after the awful legacy of the Somoza regime have been seriously undermined by Contra attacks — 370 schools destroyed and over 220 health centres destroyed or abandoned; and that atrocities have been committed against the civilian population.

Finally, in comparing favourably the activities of Solidarity with those of the Nicaraguan Government, the leader says: Solidarity, unlike the Nicaraguan Government, was not encouraging armed insurrection in the Soviet Union and among its neighbours.

True of Solidarity, but surely if anyone has been "encouraging armed insurrection" in the other area it is the US against the Nicaraguan Government and not vice versa? Yours sincerely,
FAITH TOLKIEN,
28 Church Street,
Watlington,
Oxford,
September 1.

Hospital pay

From Dr Ann Naylor
Sir, Allocation of revenue to district health authorities (DHAs) contains an element for inflation to allow for controlled increases in pay below the level of inflation. Political interference with this system by the pre-election adoption of the nurses' pay review board recommendation for pay rises well above the current level of inflation has put DHAs under stress in trying to reduce expenditure on existing services to fund pay, rather than use these measures to finance service expansion envisaged by Government.

It is difficult to employ nurses (report, August 24) even through agencies, which may offer perks such as travel allowances and additional holidays, but may not pay the individual nurse above NHS rates. Other staff, such as junior medical staff, operating department assistants and medical secretaries, are employed through locum agencies which charge DHAs considerably more and remunerate staff considerably better than the normal rate for the job, specially if overtime, weekend or night duty is involved.

One of Griffiths's recommendations for the NHS was for development of systems of management budgeting at unit level. This could involve local bargaining to take account of local variations in labour supply. This problem has

been at its most acute with computer operators, medical secretaries and financial experts, who can all earn vastly greater salaries in the private sector.

There are considerable numbers of clinicians like myself who have taken on roles in the Griffiths management structure (without pay) as an additional element of service to our beleaguered health service. We see working alongside each other agency staff and staff in definitive posts with vastly different pay and conditions of service, and we know that agencies probably charge at least 25 per cent commission in addition to basic rates.

Perhaps Professor Dyson (August 21) could use some of his skills in industrial relations in addressing this problem from the roots rather than challenging the Treasury to watch the implications of recent initiatives involving local pay deals.

Maybe the time has indeed come when a management consultancy firm should re-evaluate all NHS pay (Spectrum, August 24) and we should start again with complete restructuring of the Whitley machinery for determining pay and conditions of work.

Yours faithfully,
ANN NAYLOR,
(Consultant anaesthetist and theatre manager),
Basildon Hospital,
Basildon, Essex,
August 24.

Water music

From Dr Eric Chamberlain
Sir, The letters on "Vanishing pipes" (August 22 and 31) prompt me to ask if any of your readers have information about bellows of church organs operated by water engines.

The only recorded example I have found is the one in use at St James, Bushey, Hertfordshire, until 1952 when it was worn out and replaced with an electric blower. When it was installed I have not been able to discover.

It is, however, well documented that when under stress, it tended to spray the organist's legs with

water and that during periods of drought the incumbent's wife insisted that the organist play the Hallelujah Chorus. This was not from any love of Handel's music but to ensure that the pond in the vicarage garden was adequately supplied with water from the engine's exhaust.

I have only rumours of other similar engines. It is possible that this one was the unique child of a local inventor?

Yours sincerely,
ERIC CHAMBERLAIN,
13 The Avenue,
Northwood, Middlesex,
August 31.

Justice in Zimbabwe

From the Reverend Father Arthur R. Lewis
Sir, Your leader, "How to beggar Zimbabwe" (August 24), was biased, if it was biased at all, in favour of contemporary Zimbabwe. It certainly did not merit Mr Algy Cluff's condemnation in your issue of August 26 nor his unblinking defence of Zimbabwe's now imminent one-party state.

Mr Cluff is able, owing to his business interests, to travel freely in Zimbabwe and to befriend its leaders. The latter's critics enjoy no such liberty; nor any certainty that they will not see the inside of Mr Mugabe's jails.

Incidentally, is Mr Cluff aware of the plight of Mr Neil Harper and Mr John Austin, both apostolic, who over the past 18 months have repeatedly been cleared by the courts but remain in detention despite the recommendation of the government's own review tribunal?

The idea is fast gaining ground that one-party rule, morally repugnant in Western countries, is somehow reputable in Africa. Nothing could be further from the truth. Added to the intrinsic evils of Soviet-style tyranny is the reality of tribal domination. The single party in Zimbabwe will be an overwhelmingly Shona party, consigning the hapless Ndebele, at best, to the status of second-class citizens. The present horrifying slaughter of white farmers in Matabeleland stems from their position between two warring tribal factions.

One has only to look at Mozambique, Angola and Ethiopia (and a score of other African one-party states) to see the path on which Zimbabwe is now embarked. You, Sir, were right to question it.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. LEWIS,
(Hon. President, Rhodesia Christian Group),
PO Box 430,
London E4,
August 29.

Prosecution of war crimes suspects

From Mr Greville Janner, QC, MP for Leicester West (Labour)
Sir, In his excellent article, "Laws that protect the war crimes suspect" (August 26), Professor Gerald Draper points to the possibility that legislation may be required in order to bring British citizens to account for war crimes. He himself was a formidable British war crimes prosecutor in Germany and he is a much appreciated ally of the All Party War Crimes Group.

I know that Professor Draper is as anxious as any of us to ensure that those against whom there is cogent and powerful evidence of personal involvement in mass murder or genocide should not escape justice because they succeeded in tricking their way into the United Kingdom in the guise

of genuine refugees and thereafter in hiding their complicity in the most hideous of crimes.

The idea that Britain would deliberately harbour mass killers is unthinkable. We must therefore hope that Professor Draper is wrong in his conclusion that if legislation is required in order to bring the guilty to justice, this "would probably... be opposed by both Parliament and the British people".

The United States is now prosecuting and deporting American citizens with major involvement in serious war crimes, including mass murders. Australia is preparing to deal with war crimes suspects in its jurisdictions. In Canada such a law is in its final parliamentary stages.

I do not believe that either the Parliament or the people of our country, which stood so proudly and fiercely alone in the battle against Nazism, would willingly be alone in tolerating the presence of Nazi war criminals in our midst.

I believe that most of my parliamentary colleagues, whatever their party, would wish for the guilty to be brought to justice and the innocent absolved of blame, as swiftly as possible.

Yours faithfully,
GREVILLE JANNER,
House of Commons,
August 27.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 4 1786

Taking advantage of unrest in Ireland, the French landed a force at Killa Bay, County Mayo, and enjoyed an initial success. The British victory predicted below occurred when the invaders surrendered to General Gerard Lake (1744-1808) on September 8 at Ballinamuck.

[FRENCH LANDING IN IRELAND]

... We had every reason to hope that we should have been enabled to add some further authentic particulars to the above communications, as Government was in hourly expectation throughout yesterday evening of receiving the news of some decisive action having taken place; but at eleven o'clock last night no further advice had reached the town. We have no doubt, however, but the event is on this decided, and the enemy completely subdued, as Marquis Cornwallis had arrived at Ballinamuck with eight thousand men, and intended to attack the enemy without further delay. He had moreover been joined by the forces under General LAKE. The enemy had not advanced beyond Castlebar. Towards Leitrim, Munster and the North, cordons of troops are forming to prevent any partial escapes.

We have the pleasure to observe, that notwithstanding the partial success of the enemy in the first instance in driving back General LAKE's detachment, which was owing to the greater part of the troops under his command being young recruits, who had never seen service, very few of the peasantry have been prevailed upon to join him. Nor indeed can there be a stronger proof of the ticklish ground on which the enemy is aware that he now stands, than the circumstance of the French Commander's having sent back all the prisoners taken, having no means of confining them in safety, nor of subsisting them. The French are commanded by General SURAZIN, and have a number of very skillful Officers among them, particularly Engineers.

It is with great satisfaction that we state on the most undoubted authority, that the North of Ireland, where the insurrection would most probably have shown itself in the first instance, is more tranquil than it has been for many years past; and we do not hear from any good authority of disturbances in any other parts of the country, resulting from the French invasion...

The check experienced at Castlebar is thus accounted for in a letter from Ireland:

"General LAKE, who left Dublin on Saturday the 25th ult. at two o'clock, P.M. arrived on the next evening at a village near Castlebar, where he had directed the forces of the district to assemble with all possible speed; some of these troops had many miles to march within a very few hours and, in consequence, at a very early hour the next morning but a very small part of the intended army having assembled, (not quite one thousand men) the General was attacked on the very point of rendezvousing, by the enemy, who had marched in the course of the evening and night before in full force from Killa.

"The King's troops, consisting of detachments from two regiments of English Fencibles, Kilkeny and Limerick city militia, and Royal Irish Artillery, with six field-pieces, sustained the attack of the French with great gallantry, and had there been any time for preparation arrangements, would probably have defeated them; but the Fencibles having given way, and the six field-pieces fallen into the hands of the enemy, the General found it necessary to retreat with some loss...

Run of the mill

From Professor Neil Kessel
Sir, John Rae ("Run of the mill geniuses", August 28) is right to distinguish genius from talent. As an ex-schoolmaster he might appreciate Berenson's synoptic remark that "we define genius as the capacity for productive reaction against one's training".

Rae's view enshrines a notion of genius lying in the mind of the beholder — in being able to provoke a universal resonance. This has led many to link fame as a necessary accompaniment of genius. That is a poor route to follow.

Instead, we should reflect on Diderot's discussion about whether we should talk of "having genius" (that is of a force, or a passion, that invades a man and takes him over) or of "being a genius" (Rae's usage). Yours faithfully,
NEIL KESSEL,
University Hospital of South Manchester,
Department of Psychiatry,
West Didsbury,
Manchester,
August 29.

From Mr Kevin Fitzmaurice
Sir, May I offer an alternative Western, male eleven to match John Rae's team of geniuses, man-for-man: Plato for Aristotle; Handel (Bach); Mozart (Beethoven); Marx (Christ); Milton (Dante); Voltaire (Goethe); Hume (Kant); Michelangelo (Leonardo); Alexander the Great (Napoleon); Einstein (Newton); Cervantes (Shakespeare). Yours sincerely,
KEVIN FITZMAURICE,
Pitt House,
Wroxham Road,
Coltishall,
Norwich, Norfolk,
August 29.

THE ARTS

A new Islam?

The Pakistani teacher with the Yorkshire accent recalled how one of her pupils, an Asian girl, disturbed by a history lesson on Britain's decline, had called out "But we had a great empire once, didn't we Miss?" and the white pupils had shouted back "You didn't — we did!". It was a perfect demonstration of the dilemma of cultural identity that confronts the new generation of British-born Asians.

No wonder some of them have formed a kind of philosophical commando unit called Young Muslims, based in

TELEVISION

Loughborough, which promotes and debates the practice of Islam. These highly intelligent, persuasively articulate young British Muslims. In *Going by the Book: The Koran* (BBC2), described themselves as religious fundamentalists, but not in the popular western sense of Ayatollah-praising, fanaticism. Nor were they retreating, like Christian fundamentalists, from intellectual struggle. They were, they said, returning to the words of the Koran in order to liberate Islam from its medieval chains. They saw it as a duty to reinterpret their faith so that it might be reconciled with the modern world.

This was a fascinating, if inevitably glancing, appraisal. To judge Islam, as many of us do, by Middle East horror stories of adulterers stoned to death, is like judging Christianity by the swindlers of America's Bible-belt. As one of the programme's young Muslims pointed out, most of the traditions for which Islam is notorious in the West — like purdah for women and jihad, the notion of a holy war — are social practices that have the force of custom but not the authority of the Koran itself.

Yet even among these young British Muslims, espousing Islam as a religion based on reason, there were signs of theological conflict ahead. The young man who declared so reasonably that faith and the modern world were not opposing forces added, almost as an afterthought, that Britain would one day become an Islamic state because there was nothing in Christ's teaching to prevent it.

Michael Dean

Morality probed by imagination



Thomas Keneally: "I tell people in bars about this wonderful country..."

The Australian novelist Thomas Keneally is a born story-teller. And sure enough, when you go to interview him, he holds up the action with a torrent of stories about his recent visit to Eritrea, before turning to his new novel, *The Playmaker*. It is a re-creation of the convict society that established itself in Sydney 200 years ago. Here was a world upside down, where English normalcy did not obtain and the old rules were in abeyance. Keneally quotes one of the newly-married husbands: "If I get back to England, I won't be married to Mary."

Like all good historical novels, *The Playmaker* sits on a sure foundation of research. Even people who know Australian history well may be surprised at its evidence of Negroes and observant Jews on the First Fleet. It goes beyond research, however, in its imaginative placing of the strangeness of Australia. For Keneally sees Australia's otherness as a development from its foundations in 1788.

"The reason we are such yobos and such unbuttoned, boozing hoons," he says, "is that we're Georgian. The 18th-century Englishmen were like this. They were great toppers and they gambled on everything. Italians used to go to London and say the English were too emotional."

Keneally's historical novels, such as the 1982 Booker Prize-winner *Schindler's Ark*, carry a heavy weight of moral probing. The author thinks this stems from his years in the seminary, studying for the Catholic priesthood. Contemporaries there remember him as a genial companion with high hopes for his own writing. In a 1956 paper to a student society he predicted that God would be a character in the novels of the future.

God certainly features prominently in Keneally's early writings, some of them *romans-a-clef* about the clergy. Since then, God

The Playmaker, the latest novel by the Australian Booker

Prize-winner Thomas Keneally, is to be published here next week: interview by Edmund Campion

has faded into a persistent moral concern.

Morality may also be detected in the consistency of his output. Since his first novel, *The Place at Whitton*, in 1964, scarcely a year has gone by without a Keneally novel, play or non-fiction work. He is a hard worker who punishes himself if a day goes by without something being written.

As a fledgling writer, he won financial support from the Australian government. This kept him going through the lean years. When success came in the mid-1970s, he was on a three-year fellowship from the Literature Board of the Australia Council. No longer needing government money, he cancelled the fellowship. His act of abnegation is almost unique in Australian history and is still spoken of with wonder by other Australian writers.

Keneally is one of the many triumphs of the Literature Board's supportive policies. Since 1973 the board has given \$19 million to 2,000 writers, 90 per cent of whom have achieved publication.

To put something back into the system that has been good to him, Keneally serves on a variety of public bodies. He is a member of the Literature Board, where his colleagues speak highly of his sympathy for new directions in writing and his knowledge of the world literary scene. He is also chairman of the National Book

Council and the Australian Society of Authors.

What really grabs his attention, however, is his membership of a committee to advise the Australian government on changes to the constitution, which has been a live issue in Australia since 1975. In that year the governor-general sacked the Whitlam Labour government constitutionally but, as many saw it, unfairly. Keneally's committee aims for piecemeal change to guarantee individual rights.

Nothing excites him more than the chance to right the great wrong done to Aboriginal Australians 200 years ago. He has written a preamble to a new constitution which acknowledges their traditional ownership of the land and which denies the common-law assumption that Australia in 1788 was *terra nullius*.

"I envy the Aborigines," he says. "They know where they are. They had the song-lines; they had the map." But the people who came in 1788 knew something too: the basis of Australian egalitarianism, he suggests, lies in the refusal of people who had travelled such a distance to accept the same sort of treatment they had been getting in their own homeland. "When I leave Australia," he says, "I start mythologizing it. I tell people in bars about this wonderful country where cabinet ministers sit in the front seat of their cars and call the driver 'mate'. It's a country where there's a saving cynicism about wealth."

Keneally belongs to the last generation of Australians raised on English romantic poetry, with the implicit belief that art was impossible in Australia. The blue flame of poetry, he says, was back there, which was why Australians fought in England's wars. But within his own lifetime that has changed utterly.

It was already changing when he was born. An uncle had fought in the First World War, come home to the family store and quarrelled with his Irish father about the value of fighting for the Empire. In 1930 Uncle Johnny left home and was not heard of until 1975, when he died in a bush hospital and they found in his wallet reviews of nephew Tom's novels. "He was," says the nephew, "a personal focus of the ancient bitterness of Irish history."

His wife Judith contributes a parallel story of family change. Her elder brother flew 72 missions in pathfinders for the RAF in the Second World War. He was decorated and commissioned. "He wanted to show his style," Keneally says. Today he shows his style by decorating the roof of his house with an Australian republican flag.

With two daughters in their early twenties, the Keneallys seem self-sufficient. They make friends on the run. Judith Keneally is shy of publicity. Yet clearly this serene beautiful woman is still the centre of her husband's turning world. After 22 years of marriage, Keneally still registers amazement at his luck. "We were a couple of working-class children. Yet this beautiful girl believed that a prematurely balding man had talent worth protecting."

Judith Keneally smiles and smiles. Tom is the one who tells the stories.

● *The Playmaker* is published on Monday by Hodder & Stoughton at £10.95.

Mahler all for kicks

CONCERTS

Israel PO/
Mehta
Barbican

Listening to a whole season of concerts by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Zubin Mehta must be an exhausting business. But a single evening of this sort of high-voltage, "mountains and canyons" approach to music (so different from the disciplined composure of the British orchestral style) is strenuous but invigorating.

The orchestra may have shortcomings in the wind sections; it might not appear to subscribe to usual notions of instrumental blend; its concept of pianissimo is oddly full-bodied; and ensemble precision might seem to be left to the instinctive musicianship on the night, rather than rigorously drilled in rehearsal. Yet there were parts of Mahler's First Symphony that thrilled in an unique manner.

The *Ländler* movement, for instance, was used rather like a punchbag. Violent bow-strokes created a massive, pile-driver effect, and there was a vintage Mehta sprint to the finish: outrageous but slick. The finale's opening, too, had almost a cartoon-like expressionist quality: every dynamic nuance was luridly exaggerated, admittedly, but the result was effectively grotesque and surely nearer to Mahler's intentions than many more studious readings.

Mehta included the discarded "Blumine" second movement, one suspects, mainly to show off his strings (it could hardly have been to

demonstrate his first trumpet's tonal qualities). He milked the violins' sumptuous climactic rise with a forgivable showman's instinct; less happy was his indulgently drawn-out approach to the finale's softer reveries.

His interpretation had other disappointing features: little sense of mystery about the symphony's opening; and a bland funeral march with the oboe interjections almost perky rather than bitterly ironic (though the E flat clarinetist did give us a virtuoso display of *Angst* on the reprise). One did wonder, too, about the maestro's flamboyant podium style: poetry in motion, certainly, but how much help to his colleagues in indicating exactly when to play?

Shlomo Mintz was the soloist in a rather heavyweight performance of Brahms's Violin Concerto. Aside from some questionable intonation, Mintz's technique is excellent; his temperament is what the sports writers call "big match" (he must have ridden topping this particular fiddle section); and he storms into the music with passion. But, though he adds the usual schmaltzy little portamenti and rubato touches, this side sometimes seems mechanistically delivered. He should cultivate a more fragile, classically pure tone for variety in the slow movements.

Richard Morrison

BBCPO/Downes
Albert Hall/Radio 3

As operas go in the concert-hall, Act II of *Prince Igor* stands well on its own, making a splendid element of song and dance in this Russian programme conducted by Edward Downes. In spite of other hands that helped to make something of Borodin's unfinished patchwork, the scene has unity and most of the opera's best music, ending with those Polovtsian Dances that changed the course of dance history when Diaghilev first brought this scene to Paris 78 years ago.

Heard in its full choral splendour as it was here, the music's barbaric character needed something wilder of

voice than the combined forces of the BBC and London Symphony Chorus could summon between them. The smaller chorus passages sounded better, and Fiona Kimm as the solo Polovtsian girl gave a vocally seductive lead to the other principals.

These numbered an expressive Alexandra Milcheva and Zubin Sokolova as the young lovers from the opposing sides, conqueror and captive, though the tenor's tone became nasal under pressure. Yuri Masurok, a fine baritone already familiar here, was a warmly thoughtful Igor, surely the least assertive of Mother Russia's operatic defenders. Dimitri Kavrakos gave sonorous assurance but little passion to the magnificent Khan Kouchak, and Ian Caley voiced Ovlur's entreaties with admirable clarity.

All this, and the keen spirit of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, could not however on this occasion cap the superb impression made by Dmitri Sitkovetsky in Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, which began the programme.

His mellowness of tone without sacrificing brilliance, his clean articulation at speed, his subtlety of shading within a continuing melodic line and the touches of individuality in phrasing were all hallmarks of a great violinist. Mr Downes and the orchestra were sensitive partners.

Noël Goodwin



Nicola Pagett (right), her wide eyes letting no rotten detail escape her stare, and Claire Hackett in *The Light of Day*

In the Image of the Beast

Warehouse, Croydon

In their excellent adaptation of *The Mill on the Floss* the Red Shift Theatre Company used a great variety of visual imagery to illuminate a literary text. Here, they are dealing with something essentially cinematic — a space odyssey, in fact — and translating imagery born of celluloid special effects in their combination of physical and narrative theatre. In the first instance they succeeded brilliantly; this attempt to humanize a genre all too often dominated by technology and empty of emotional and intellectual substance, while often entertaining and visually compelling, is compromised by a lack of coherence in the script, written by their director Jonathan Holloway.

The show is subtitled "A Science Fiction Revenge Tragedy" and features a main character named, after the hero of George Chapman's two-part revenge play, Bussy D'Amboise. Bussy is the only survivor left on board SS *Elsinor* after a collision in deep space; another spaceship, *Amalthea*, sees his distress flares but fails to rescue him, whereas Bussy swears vengeance on the ship and its crew. His hunt for the latter leads him on a journey which encompasses Bikini Asteroid (the contaminated atoll had been blasted into space), a prison beneath the Sinai Desert and a park on Mars inhabited by robotic nannies.

Charlotte Hampson's economical set (a simple scaffolding structure decorated with surrealistic dummies and revolving wheel-rims) provides ample opportunities for acrobatic movement, both in deep space and on terra, as they call it, and also manages to evoke a decaying, doom-laden atmosphere reminiscent of Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner*. But for all the vitality and humour of the acting by this richly talented group (David Kendall impressively athletic as Bussy,

Fiona McAlpine memorably as *Mata-Hari* as the agent Tango Tango, Beatrice Collins seductive as Bussy's cast-off lover Jezebel), this theatrical science fiction fails to match the mythopoeic power of that remarkable film.

It is a daring experiment, full of imaginative touches and not in the least boring, but I felt in the end that Red Shift had boldly gone down a galactic cul-de-sac.

Harry Eyres

Hopeful start

THEATRE

The Light of Day
Lyric Studio,
Hammersmith

When a wife discovers her husband in bed with a girl half his age the course of true drama can go any which way. Graham Swannell arrives at this crossroads with the minimum of preliminary action.

A shared glass of red wine is interrupted by a kiss, the kiss is interrupted by a shuffle to the double bed, the first heavings under the quilt are interrupted by the opening door and the brisk entrance of the third point of the triangle, Louise, the wife. In the bed is Ralph, the husband, and Bel, the girl half his age, dressed, when not clutching sheet or towel, in short black skirt and shirt with striped socks of a style descended from school uniform.

For a while the play continues to look hopeful. The bed is in a hotel room in Montmartre. Long ago Ralph and Louise stayed there. Claiming he saw his wife with a lover, but actually seething with anger at her business success, Ralph picks up Bel and takes her off to his past. Will Paris work its healing magic and send the married couple back to the Home Counties?

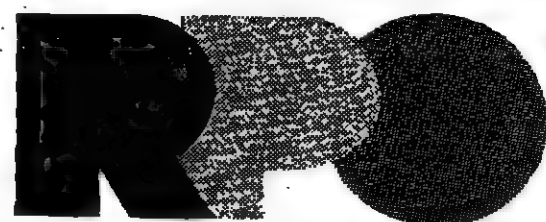
Very soon it becomes an insoluble mystery why either of the women, the author, we or anyone near by should want to spend time with Ralph, a self-centred boor, a slammer of doors, choking with his contempt for women, and blaming his misery on the insatiable needs of his genitals. "Your genitals!" queries his wife in affectionate disdain.

The characters have scarcely any substance extending beyond the superficial needs of the dialogue. But Nicola Pagett makes an attractive figure of the wife, her wide eyes letting no rotten detail escape her stare, and adroitly blocking most of the remarks intended to diminish her. Claire Hackett is charming and deflating as the Girl with Little Brain. Nigel Terry plays the boy.

I suppose that Peter James, the author and director, intended him to seem slow-witted and lope like a jogger practising in a small room, but I did not find his credibility as object of desire enhanced by a compulsion to drop aspirates, final g's and sometimes middle t's too, so that in an extreme case the word hitting becomes "Tia". The women abandoned this male chauvinist hog only at the very end, long after most of us would willingly have sent him hurtling from the Eiffel Tower.

Jeremy Kingston

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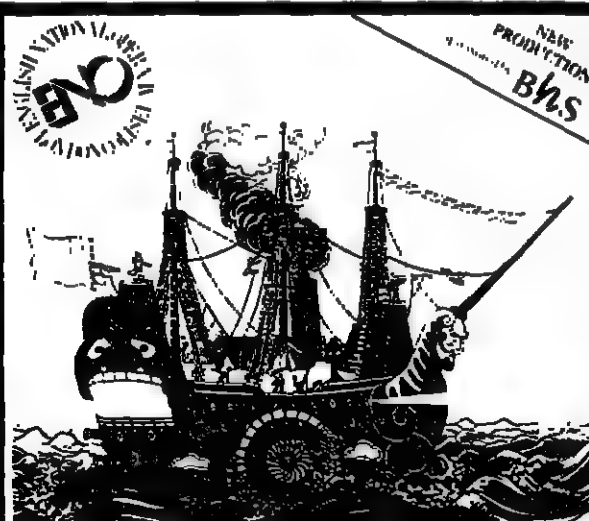
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FRIDAY PAGE

'Behind disaster funds lie the best impulses of human nature, but the minute there is money, other instincts surface'

Four-year-old Hannah Godfrey was very matter of fact: "A man in black has shot our mummy," the little girl said to pensioner Mrs Myra Rose. That was the beginning. "I couldn't believe it," Mrs Rose told Hungerford police. But then few of us in the western world ever see death, let alone brutal death. We occasionally find a relative gone after a lingering sickness, perhaps a grandparent upstairs one morning in bed, all waxen and still. But most of us never see the shrivelled and sealed faces of an Aberfan, a Bradford or a Hungerford.

Behind the disaster funds that pour in on these occasions—close to £500,000 in Hungerford already—lie the best impulses of human nature. But the minute there is money, of course, other instincts surface. There will be sharks, cadgers, the totally deserving and the totally undeserving, all circling like bluebottles at a compost heap. There will be those who are too shy to ask for anything and those who will simply see the fund as an extension of their social

benefits. One long-term unemployed family in Hungerford immediately put in an order for new children's bikes; another billed lavish funeral wreaths to the fund. Are disaster funds a cure worse than the disease?

The Aberfan fund was a source of dissension almost from the beginning. Although initially the ad hoc committee of parents pronounced themselves "delighted" with the news that each family was to get £5,000 for their lost child, that soon turned to bitterness as the fund swelled to £1.75 million.

"Is my child only worth £5,000?" asked the hand-lettered signs derisively. Almost £3.5 million was raised for the Penlee lifeboat disaster, in which eight men died. After furious debate, it was divided up among the eight families, giving them a small fortune of £384,000 each—a far cry from the situation the Cornish villagers were in before the tragedy.

By the time of the Bradford football stadium fire, fiscal sophistication had set in. The trustees structured the appeal fund as a discretionary one, which is not

as tax-efficient as a charitable trust, but can be run privately out of the public spotlight. A charitable trust, which handled the Aberfan money, does have some tax benefits, but means that every bit of money given out has to meet the scrutiny of the charity commissioners. They can permit payment to cover reasonable need and want—but no more.

A charitable trust is prevented by law from making the victims richer than they were before the disaster, and it must give surplus money to whatever charities the commissioners choose. This notion outraged many contributors to the Penlee fund. "This money," one wrote to *The Times*, "subscribed by so many of us, is for the families of those men who perished and for no one else."



BARBARA AMIEL

Public feeling was so strong on this issue that a ruling was made allowing all the money to be handed out to the survivors. Hungerford officials have taken the Bradford approach as their model. Hungerford's trust fund manager, Mr Michael Harris, says they will constitute the main appeal as a discretionary fund (although a charitable trust will be set up for monies bound by covenant). The criteria for making awards, says Mr Harris, will be to "assist those who were bereaved or who were injured in body or mind or suffered loss or damage as a result of the tragedy".

One can see the wisdom of Hungerford in choosing a discretionary fund. Adding a layer of bureaucracy in the form of the charity commissioners makes discreet

handling of grief very difficult and puts trustees in a strait-jacket of regulations when it comes to deciding who needs or deserves money. However, speaking personally, I can only say that I think it is a great mistake to try to assess intangible damages—those matters that Bradford called "psychological distress" and which Hungerford refers to as injuries of the mind.

Clearly the psychological loss is very real, but to try to assess it is such a hornet's nest. One parent may go crazy with grief over the loss of a son or daughter; another may be less damaged. Non-psychological damages are reasonably easy to assess: the loss of a breadwinner's earnings can be calculated. A broken leg or a bullet wound incurs specific medical costs and the loss of income during recovery.

The loss of a child who gave parents a reasonable expectation of help and aid in their old age has a certain monetary value—even if one six-year-old may have turned out to be a clerk and another a doctor. In spite of those unknowns,

some arbitrary decision on value can be made. But psychological damage cannot be compensated by money. In fact, if it can, it is probably not psychological.

At times of great stress and grief, we naturally look to friends and neighbours to help us. That is what community is about. But the idea of looking to the community to finance the recovery of one's mental equilibrium is an idea I don't think we want to foster.

When a tragedy is unusual, be it a road accident on a terrible scale or a berserk killer or a hill of sludge that buries a village school, something good in human nature emerges and we all want to give. For myself, I don't mind whether my donation is spent on helping the survivors overcome financial loss or on charitable trusts that try to prevent similar disasters in the future. But I would want to draw the line at compensating victims simply for feeling grief. Dreadful as this is, grief is a natural human condition and money is not the balm to overcome that pain.

All about Eve and Marilyn

For 10 years Marilyn Monroe regularly posed for Eve Arnold. Victoria McKee hears the story of their relationship

The one picture of Eve Arnold with Marilyn Monroe shows Monroe, appropriately, with half her face obscured by a vanity mirror. "She always held something back," remembers Eve, the photographer who probably got as close as anyone to the woman behind the legend. There was always the sense of observing a phenomenon rather than knowing a person—and that comes across in Eve Arnold's loving but far from sympathetic celebration, *Marilyn Monroe: An Appreciation*.

I keep wondering who Marilyn was—but maybe that's because she didn't know," the veteran photographer reflects, fingering a scarf which consists of photographs and negatives of Marilyn from her last, semi-nude, photographic session, with Bert Stern. Arnold's own nude photos of Marilyn, from dif-

ferent sessions over the years, have all mysteriously disappeared.

On some points about Marilyn's character, though, Arnold is adamant. "Dumb blonde? Ha! Marilyn had a first-class brain. She was witty, sharp—bright enough to play that dumb blonde role to perfection. She achieved what she set out to do and did it with great style."

A large part of Marilyn's enduring fascination, Arnold believes, stems from the emotional projection of a little girl inside the body of a voluptuous woman: a dichotomy which comes across clearly in the pictures she took of Marilyn over a 10-year period, ending a year before her death.



Camera chemistry: the American photographer Eve Arnold with her most famous subject, Marilyn Monroe

"The camera can be a cruel and demanding instrument—or kind and loving as it was to Marilyn," says Arnold, who has photographed almost everyone of note from the Queen and Margaret Thatcher to Malcolm X. Unlike some of her male colleagues, she says archly, she does not believe there is a need to sleep with her subjects to get the best out of them. A rapport can be struck up, woman to woman, if the chemistry is

right—as it was with Monroe. She came to London 25 years ago to settle her young son into Bedales and decided to stay. Photo-journalism was on the wane in her native United States but here the field was just opening up with the birth of *The Sunday Times Magazine*, to which she has been a leading contributor.

She is also a member of Magnum Photos, an international co-operative of photographers, and the author

of several books: *In China, In America: The Unretouched Woman and Flashback! The 50s*. She is currently working on a book about the ballet dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov, and mourning the death of her good friend John Huston.

Arnold maintains that it is impossible to predict who the camera will love—but its relationship to Marilyn was clearly one of mutual admiration. At the first sight of a camera the voluptuous breasts

would thrust forward, the generous bottom start swivelling and the sensual lips break into a warm smile.

"Maybe the reason Marilyn had such difficulty with film directors was because she couldn't be in control the way she was in a still session," Arnold says. "Then she could call the shots—direct herself. I would just follow, praying that my reflexes would be fast enough."

Marilyn was also blessed

6'Dumb blonde? Ha! She had a first class brain'

with what Arnold describes as "pneumatic" flesh: "translucent, white, luminous. Up close, around the periphery of her face, there was a dusting of faint down." This almost imperceptible fuzz trapped the light and gave her face an extra glow.

"She would look heavy, fat. Yet she photographed 10 pounds lighter than she was, whereas most people photograph 10 pounds heavier."

Marilyn grew to trust Arnold to record some of her most intimate moments. She even invited her into the ladies room with her, which resulted in an unforgettable back view of Monroe in front of a row of sinks: tight, white lace dress hitched up above plump legs, disappointingly serviceable knickers peeking out, fixing her hair in the mirror.

Sex symbols had previously only been photographed in carefully posed sessions controlled by their studios. But Marilyn was taken with Arnold's natural, warm-and-al technique. She never worried about being caught off-guard, and even appears in one picture in the book without make-up—in a pair of tartan trousers which do not quite zip up at the back.

She flaunted her sexuality in a way that made it clear it was all good, clean fun, and Arnold delights in remembering the unselfconscious joy she took in her body. "There was nothing sordid about her—nothing nasty."

Monroe attempted to introduce a nude love scene into *The Misfits*—and the director

John Huston let her play it out with a slightly surprised Clark Gable, but the sequence was edited out.

Marilyn may have been vain, because her looks were her livelihood, but Arnold is convinced she was no more paranoid about ageing than the next woman. Although reluctant to be drawn on any speculation about Marilyn's death—"I had stopped photographing her a year before the end," she points out—she dismisses the suggestion that Marilyn may merely have been afraid of growing old.

Poring through the photographs of Marilyn with Gable and Montgomery Clift and Eli Wallach in *The Misfits* it is plain that she never looked better. The puppy fat which rounded her face well into her twenties had vanished to reveal a stunning bone structure, and there is a haunting fragility about the later pictures—a new beauty even more exciting than her youthful robustness.

But Arnold does remember one small cry for help. Marilyn said to her: "I'm 34 years old, I've been dancing for six months (on *Let's Make Love*), I've had no rest, I'm exhausted. Where do I go from here?"

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Marilyn Monroe: An Appreciation, is published next Monday by Hamish Hamilton, at £14.95. Eve and Marilyn, a programme of reminiscences, will be broadcast on BBC2 next Tuesday at 9pm, and an exhibition of Eve Arnold's photographs of Marilyn Monroe will open at the Knoedler Gallery, 22 Cork Street, London W1 next Wednesday.

Writing childhood wrongs

The best background for a writer, Graham Greene once said, is an unhappy childhood. "Unhappiness wonderfully aids the memory," he wrote, citing those authors who, in his view, had managed to turn miserable childhood experiences into enduring works of art—Dickens, Saki, Kipling.

To that illustrious list is now added the name of Lee Langley. Already the author of several successful novels, plays and film scripts, her fifth novel, *Changes of Address*, draws heavily on her extraordinary childhood spent accompanying her wildly eccentric and hopelessly disorganised mother around India in the 1940s; moving from man to man in a progression of seedy hotel rooms.

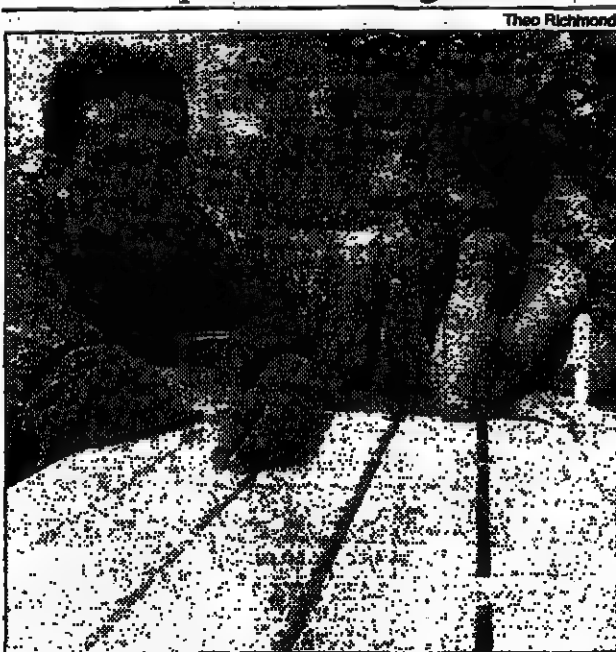
"All novels are to some extent autobiographical," Langley says, "but in this one, very little is fictional. I want people to know that this is something I haven't imagined, or dreamed up. This is what it was like."

The novel tells how the child, named Maggie in the book, becomes precociously aware of the things which are normally kept hidden from small children—drunkenness, sex and money problems. And while the mother dressed up, danced and drank the nights away, the child became ever more miserable, aware of promises that were never kept, lies that were told, fantasies which never became reality. In the book, these experiences come over as exotic, exciting and humorous, even though tinged with pain.

But Lee Langley says it has taken her nearly 40 years to be able to see her childhood in any kind of positive light, and also to be able to portray her mother with any measure of artistic detachment.

"Now, looking back, I think that with a little luck, and less reliance on alcohol, my mother could have shone. The trouble was, she had not been brought up to look after herself and she never managed

Lee Langley has joined the long list of authors who have drawn on unhappy fact to produce moving fiction



Lee Langley and her son Simon, 19: good training for a writer

'Perhaps the mother-daughter relationship is never easy'

to do this. She was a supreme non-cooper."

Langley is surprised that the experience of having to watch her mother so often drunk and incapable has not turned her totally against drink. "But drunkenness fills me with absolute despair. I'm sure it was at least partly because of alcohol that my mother was incapable of organizing and planning her life."

"Perhaps the mother-daughter relationship is never entirely an easy one."

She lives in Richmond with her husband and 19-year-old son. Her other two children, in their twenties, have now left home. "I never had any real relationship at all with my mother. Where there should

have been affection, or at least understanding, on my part, there was only a pure, burning hate."

Not that there was any obvious cruelty or evil in Lee Langley's childhood. She was not locked into frightening red rooms like Jane Eyre, abandoned to the care of sadistic nurses or aunts, or physically abused. "Mother didn't mean to be unkind or neglectful. She was a fantasist, somebody who simply could not tell the difference between fantasy and reality. When I was 10 and a half, she told people I was nine, so that people could believe she was still in her twenties."

"What I didn't have, and what I craved, was stability.

We never had a proper home, and because of that, I didn't have much formal education or any childhood friends. We always moved on too quickly for that. I grew up without any ground rules as to what constituted correct behaviour."

"She married my father at the age of 19 or so, and went to India with him. But the marriage didn't work, and so she was left to drift around India with no prospect of earning a living. Everything was neglected in the pursuit of another drink, another man, another party."

From the age of eight, Langley says, she started looking forward to the day when she would be able to leave her mother and never see her again. "That finally happened when I was 16. My mother and stepfather, whom she had married several years earlier, suddenly emigrated after living in England for a few years. From that day, there was no further communication between us, even by letter. I just received a telegram from my stepfather when she died."

One particularly poignant passage in the novel tells how the child was given a Bible as a birthday present. Her mother's current lover, a kind man, had bought it, and written his name in the flyleaf, leaving a blank space for "Mummy" to put hers. But she never got round to it, and the child opened the Bible to read: "With love from (blank) and Shorry."

"But looking back, I can see that it wasn't all bad. And if I'd had the cosy, Christopher Robin kind of childhood I craved, I would probably have gone out of my mind with boredom. Also, because I lived all my childhood on the sidelines, watching other people participating, I had a very good training to be a writer."

Liz Hodgkinson

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Changes of Address by Lee Langley is published by Collins next Monday (£9.95).

A WIZARD SEASON

New this autumn - the acclaimed production of The Winter's Tale, Genet season now complete with Deathwatch, The Maids and The Blacks, and Sarcophagus transfers to the Mermaid after a sell-out season.

AT THE BARBICAN AND THE PIT

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S THE WINTER'S TALE (OPEN 8 OCT)

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

ROMEO AND JULIET (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

JEAN GENET SEASON: THE BALCONY (DOUBLE BILL OPEN 8 OCT)

DEATHWATCH/THE MAIDS (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

THE BLACKS (OPEN 26 OCT)

THE ART OF SUCCESS BY NICK DEAR (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

FLIGHT BY DAVID LAN (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

THE STORM BY ALEXANDER OSTROVSKY (FINAL PER 3 OCT)

AT THE MERMAID THEATRE

SARCOPHAGUS (FROM 7 OCT)

BY VLADIMIR GUBAREV

THE GREAT WHITE HOPE BY HOWARD SACKLER

THEY SHOOT HORSES, DON'T THEY? BY RAY HERMAN AND HORACE MCCOY

EVERY MAN IN HIS HUMOUR BY BEN JONSON (FINAL PER 1 OCT)

BOOKING OPENS TOMORROW FOR PERFORMANCES UNTIL 9 JAN

DEMAND IS ALREADY HEAVY, SO BOOK EARLY!

BOX OFFICE OPEN 10am-8pm

01.638 8891

RSC

Royal Shakespeare Company

AND THIS CHRISTMAS, THE RSC GOES OVER THE RAINBOW WITH A NEW PRODUCTION OF THE WIZARD OF OZ

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC1

- 6.00 Cee-eez AM.
6.30 *Edgar Kennedy in Taint Legal* (b/w) 5.55. Weather.
7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson, Jeremy Paxman and Paula Armstrong. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.35, 7.55 and 8.05. Plus reports on Daisy Thompson's efforts in the decoration in Rome 8.55 Regional news and weather.
9.00 News and weather 9.05
Children's BBC Magazine programme presented by Andy Crane, beginning with a Top Cat cartoon (r) followed at 9.30 by *Harriet*. Tony Hart's guide to better picture making (r).
10.00 News and weather 10.05
Neighbours (r) 10.35 *Play School* presented by Fred Harris with guest, Jane Hardy (r) and *Willo the Wisp*. With the voice of Kenneth Williams (r). 10.55 *Five to Eleven*. Catherine Giller with a thought for the day.
11.00 News and weather 11.05
World 87. *World Championships - Rome 87*. Includes the decoration competition. Includes news and weather at 11.00, 12.05 Regional news and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* and weather 1.05
Neighbours. Dies suffers heart attack at Stone and Daphne's engagement party.
1.50 *File on Crime* and *Spot* (1987) The second and final part of the drama about a successful businessman and his obsessive love for the son he abandoned on his way to the top. Directed by Wally Hussein.
2.50 News and weather
3.00 *World Athletics Championships - Rome 87*. Includes the decoration competition. Includes news and weather at 3.00, 3.55 Regional news and weather.

BBC2

- 6.55 *Open University: Field Geology - Arran*. Ends at 7.55.
9.00 Cee-eez.
10.45 *Film: A Sailor-Made Man* (1921, b/w) starring Harold Lloyd as a millionaire who joins the navy to prove he is a man. Followed by *General's Boy* (1922, b/w) in which Lloyd plays a fly-fisher who becomes a hero. Both films directed by Fred Newmeyer.
12.05 *Dallas* (r). 12.50 *Cee-eez*. 1.20 *Postman Pat* (r). 1.35 *The Little Boat*.
1.45 *Film: Night in Rome* (1960, b/w) starring Lou Genn, Giovanna Ralli and Sergio Bondarchuk. Second World War drama about three Allied prisoners-of-war escapes who take up in the life of a young woman in Rome. Directed by Roberto Rossellini. In Italian with English subtitles.
3.55 *Transit*. A preview of the programme beginning at 7.20.
4.05 News, regional news and weather.
4.10 *Heathcote and Marmaduke* (r). 4.30 *Galloping Gertie* (r). 4.50 *Newsnight*. 5.05 *Gentle Day*.

BBC1

- Wales 12.55-1.00pm
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Floods make 24 million foodless and homeless



A column of peasants in the worst-hit north-west region of Bangladesh making their way to safety through floodwaters. With their homes destroyed and crops under water, many of them face famine without emergency relief.

Continued from page 1

Ethiopian famine may lie ahead, he said.

Some relief is already on its way to the country. The United States had pledged 90,000 tons of rice. West Germany 10,000 tons of wheat, and the EEC 25,000 tons of grain, with an additional \$500,000 (£303,000) of emergency relief. Britain has allocated £110,000 to be spent through the Bangladesh Government and several voluntary agencies.

Christian Aid has allotted £100,000, Oxfam £80,000 and the Save the Children Fund £25,000 in the past two weeks. The United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation has already sent a special representative to Bangladesh.

The problem now is whether the food would arrive speedily and whether the food stocks already in the country can be distributed effectively, said Mr Rutherford. Unless this was distributed quickly, food prices would soar. Cash was needed from international donors to provide transport.

The agency yesterday launched a £50,000 appeal to provide food and transport within the country this week, special care for children and other vulnerable groups in the next few weeks and longer-term rehabilitation work.

At least 150 people are known to have died of diarrhoea and dysentery which is spreading in the villages where floodwaters carrying animal carcasses have contaminated safe drinking sources.

Even if the swollen rivers abate, it would take a month for the waters to subside. "At the moment there is no sign of that. The rain is still torrential. Often it rains for 24 hours without a break," said Ms Allison.

Prosecutor demands eight-year hard labour sentence for Rust

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A Soviet prosecutor yesterday called on the Supreme Court to sentence Herr Mathias Rust, the 19-year-old West German amateur pilot, to eight years in a strict regime Soviet labour camp as punishment for his solo flight across Russia to the fringes of Red Square.

The demand for close to the maximum penalty of 10 years on the main charge of breaching international flight rules followed a day of tough cross-examination in which the prosecuting attorney, Mr Vladimir Andreyev, accused Herr Rust of endangering the life of passengers on board a West German airliner during his low-level flight to Moscow.

Western observers said that if the court handed out such a stiff sentence after today's verdict has been announced, considerable West German

diplomatic pressure could be expected to secure the young aviator's quick return home.

The prosecution also demanded a further four years in a labour camp on a malicious hooliganism charge and two more for illegally crossing the Soviet border. Under Soviet practice, all three labour camp terms would run concurrently.

According to legal experts, a strict regime camp term is the second harshest of the four types of diet and working conditions in Soviet labour colonies. The experts noted that commentary in the official media indicated that strong pressure was now coming from high levels in the Government for the court to impose a heavy sentence.

Last night, Tass, the official Soviet news agency, abandoned any pretence of object-

ivity in its coverage of the case and openly ridiculed Herr Rust's claim that he was undertaking a solo peace mission inspired by the failure of the Iceland summit in October, 1986.

During the second day of the hearing, Herr Rust—who looked more serious and preoccupied than at the beginning—contested a testimony which said that immediately after his arrival close to the Kremlin on the evening of May 28 he had told onlookers that he had made his 300-mile flight across heavily guarded Soviet airspace for fun.

The judge, Mr Robert Tikhomirov, read out damaging testimony from a West German tour guide, Herr Guntar Reicher, who said that he saw a light Cessna plane with West German markings circle Red Square

and land. "Why did you do it?" the guide asked after Rust had climbed from the cockpit. "Simply for fun," he quoted the young pilot as replying at the time.

Under questioning, Herr Rust seemed somewhat confused and denied from the dock that moments earlier he had confirmed that part of his remarks on May 28. "That part of the testimony I did not understand," he said, making it clear that he did not want the court to think he had flown to the seat of Kremlin power for fun.

The prosecutor said that Herr Rust had consciously broken Soviet laws by landing near the square. "What is Red Square for a Russian person, for our multi-national country? It is a sacred place for us," he declared.

Britoil to drill in city centre

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britoil, the world's largest pure oil exploration company, which has drilling crews in the North Sea, Texas, Egypt, West Africa and Indonesia, is about to drill for oil in central Manchester.

The company has applied for an exploration licence and could start drilling — its first well in an area where spuds are normally sited, tried and served up in chip butties, in the second half of next year.

This will be the first time an exploration well is likely to be drilled in a city centre.

A Britoil spokesman said the site had not been decided and any well would be drilled only after extensive consultation.

The centre of Manchester is virtually in the middle of the exploration block, and the whole area is built up. It extends east to Droydsden and the boundary passes south to the centre of Stockport. The southern edge includes Heaton Moor while part of Sale is in the north-west corner. Most of Salford and half of Salford fall inside the western boundary with Broughton, Cheetham Hill and Harpurhey in the north.

Only if all local planning applications are approved and permission is given by the owner of the land, can work start.

Even if oil is found, another licence is required before any appraisal drilling can be carried out.

Whitehall bid to halt job poachers

By Sheila Gamm, Political Staff

City firms have been poaching the Government's top brains with offers of high salaries and the promise of excitement.

The Treasury and the Department of Trade and Industry have suffered the most, losing 30 of their elite group of "fast streamers" who had been marked down for swift promotion.

Other departments are also short of the brightest people to work on the Government's heavy legislative plans for education, the proposed poll tax and inner cities.

The losses have led the Civil Service to launch a recruitment drive next week to try to entice 60 top people from industry, commerce and local government.

The stumbling block is the salary of between £15,000 and £21,500 a year for a principal secretary coming straight into the Civil Service.

A campaign run four years ago attracted only 18 people from 1,000 applicants who matched both the job description and were willing to accept the pay and conditions.

Mr Nick Gurney, a Civil Service commissioner, said that the 700-800 fast-streamers in Whitehall could expect to be promoted rapidly and skip a grade. He or she could become an assistant secretary with a salary of £30,000 a year within a few years.

"The DTI and the Treasury have lost a large number of very good people. Over the last three years the DTI has lost about 30 fast streamers, which is way ahead of the normal rate," he said.

"In some departments the wastage has been very low. Most Civil Servants tend to stick around for quite a long time."

The Civil Service has to compete with the demand from outside for bright, young self-starters who can earn at least twice as much in a merchant bank. But for many of the top brains who left the DTI it was the need for a new challenge that spurred them into accepting other jobs.

Mr Callum McCarthy, who left after 12 years as a "fast streamer" under-secretary at the DTI to become director of corporate finance at the Kleinwort Benson Group, said: "I did not want to spend the next 20 years of my life doing basically the same thing."

Ms Colette Bowe, who resigned as director of information at the DTI to join the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said: "There comes a moment in your life, perhaps at around 40, when you start to think about a new challenge."

Members of the new intake are expected to be between 26 and 31 with a second class honours degree or equivalent intellectual standard.

From this week, in another move aimed at rewarding the best middle and senior ranking Civil Servants, performance pay of up to £1,000 a year will be available.

The Government is also planning to launch a "fast stream" scheme next year to lure top-quality scientists. Personnel problem, page 6

Willis deflects no-strike deal trouble at TUC

Continued from page 1

could not take it for granted that if the review body came out against specific forms of arbitration, including the controversial no-strike deal, the EETPU would feel bound by any such decision.

The TUC leaders voted 44 to 1 on the General Council in favour of Mr Willis's plan, with only Mr Arthur Scargill, President of the National Union of Mine Workers, against. He was reported to be "violently opposed to the deal" for not having the whole

argument out in the open.

Mr Bill Jordan, President of the amalgamated Engineering Union, said the plan had headed off a divisive vote over the TGWU's motion which would now "take the spotlight off the movements divisions and concentrate on more important matters".

Although some of the TUC leaders were concerned about the constitutional implications of such an unprecedented plan, Mr Willis persuaded them of the "urgency of a solution and a

common approach to the problem."

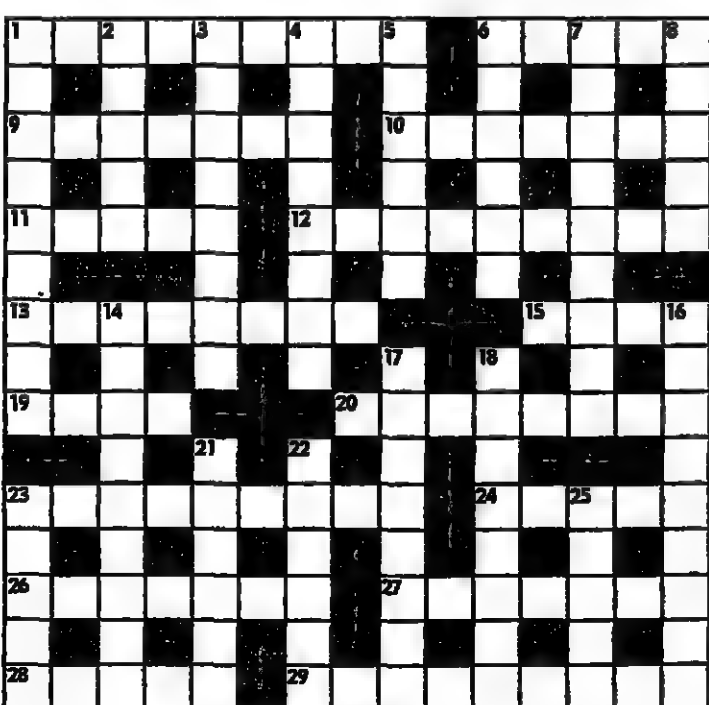
The leaders of Britain's largest trade unions will now put the TUC plan to their delegations which are expected to endorse it. Mr Todd is likely to have the hardest time selling the statement to his union's delegates, since there is little reference in Mr Willis's statement to the TGWU's motion.

The TUC statement recognises the present Bridlington principles which determine inter-union disputes, and will look "into the practices which have led to considerable friction between the unions." But the statement, significantly, falls short of preventing other unions from signing no-strike deals.

Mr Willis, in a note of warning, said the TUC was still in a "sticky process" and the difficulties over single union agreements were not over. None the less, the General Secretary, in a triumphant mood, said he had had the best day at a crucial TUC meeting after his peace plan was overwhelmingly carried.

putes, and will look "into the practices which have led to considerable friction between the unions." But the statement, significantly, falls short of preventing other unions from signing no-strike deals.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,453



ACROSS

- 1 Drunk, but unlikely to squeak (4-5).
- 6 24 overindulge (5).
- 9 Farm vehicle turned to the right of another one (7).
- 10 The villain in 15 repeats, becoming reformed (7).
- 11 Fireplace — a place to practise firing (5).
- 12 Cheap floor (5-4).
- 13 Survey, when done... (4-3).
- 15 ... by chartered engineer, reveals a delightful spot (4).
- 16 Mean to go out in style (4).
- 20 Two wives interrupted by a third resolved to recall what was said... (8).
- 23 ... for all appreciated endless, exchanges (3-6).
- 24 A way in we refuse (5).
- 26 Diaphragm puts one medical man in a huff (7).
- 27 Upstairs South-to-North American journey (7).
- 28 The result of cultivating flowers back in the yard (5).
- 29 Balanced the wherewithal for a bet (4-5).

DOWN

- 1 Bowdlerize novel, removing reference to ship (5-4).

Concise crossword, page 10

WEATHER

A generally showery airstream will be over the country and a warm front will affect north-western parts later in the day. North-west England, western Scotland, the Northern Isles, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man will have frequent showers, possibly accompanied by hail or thunder. These areas will also have strong to gale force south-westerly winds. Remaining parts of the country will have showers and sunny intervals, the best of the sunshine being in the south-east where showers will be mostly light and infrequent. Thereafter it will be mostly dry during the evening. Outlook for the weekend: continuing showers.

ABROAD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	28	SE	100
Alexandria	28	SE	100
Amman	28	SE	100
Baghdad	28	SE	100
Bombay	28	SE	100
Buenos Aires	28	SE	100
Calcutta	28	SE	100
Cairo	28	SE	100
Colon	28	SE	100
Hong Kong	28	SE	100
London	28	SE	100
Madras	28	SE	100
Manila	28	SE	100
Mexico City	28	SE	100
Moscow	28	SE	100
Paris	28	SE	100
Rangoon	28	SE	100
Shanghai	28	SE	100
Singapore	28	SE	100
Tokyo	28	SE	100
Yokohama	28	SE	100

AROUND BRITAIN

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	28	SE	100
Birmingham	28	SE	100
Cardiff	28	SE	100
Edinburgh	28	SE	100
Glasgow	28	SE	100
Manchester	28	SE	100
Newcastle	28	SE	100
Nottingham	28	SE	100
Sheffield	28	SE	100
Sunderland	28	SE	100
Wolverhampton	28	SE	100

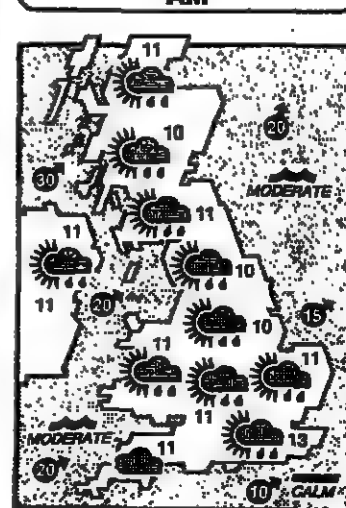
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London	11:30	11.2
Birmingham	11:30	11.2
Cardiff	11:30	11.2
Edinburgh	11:30	11.2
Glasgow	11:30	11.2
Manchester	11:30	11.2
Newcastle	11:30	11.2
Nottingham	11:30	11.2
Sheffield	11:30	11.2
Sunderland	11:30	11.2
Wolverhampton	11:30	11.2

THE POUND

Country	Rate
Australia	2.35
Canada	2.35
France	2.35
Germany	2.35
Italy	2.35
Japan	2.35
Netherlands	2.35
Portugal	2.35
Spain	2.35
Switzerland	2.35
USA	2.35

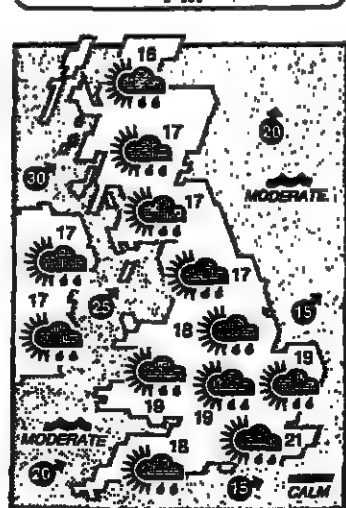
AM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

Location	Time
London	6:12 pm to 5:49 am
Bristol	6:21 pm to 5:58 am
Edinburgh	6:31 pm to 5:54 am
Manchester	6:23 pm to 5:54 am
Pennance	6:31 pm to 6:12 am

PM



LONDON

Location	Time
London	6:12 pm to 5:49 am
Bristol	6:21 pm to 5:58 am
Edinburgh	6:31 pm to 5:54 am
Manchester	6:23 pm to 5:54 am
Pennance	6:31 pm to 6:12 am

MANCHESTER

Location	Time
Manchester	6:23 pm to 5:54 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

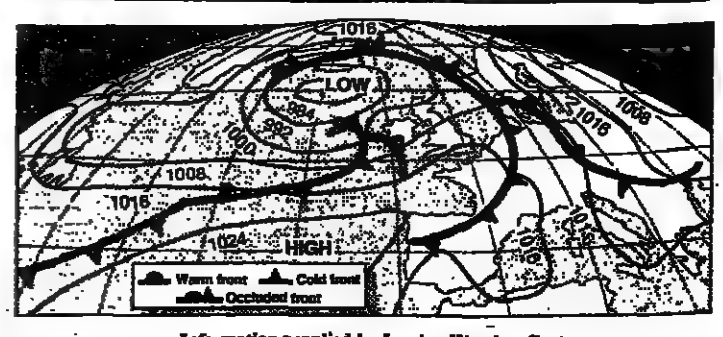
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Wolverhampton	11.2	11.2

YESTERDAY

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	28	SE	100
Birmingham	28	SE	100
Cardiff	28	SE	100
Edinburgh	28	SE	100
Glasgow	28	SE	100
Manchester	28	SE	100
Newcastle	28	SE	100
Nottingham	28	SE	100
Sheffield	28	SE	100
Sunderland	28	SE	100
Wolverhampton	28	SE	100

NOON TODAY

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	28	SE	100
Birmingham	28	SE	100
Cardiff	28	SE	100
Edinburgh	28	SE	100
Glasgow	28	SE	100
Manchester	28	SE	100
Newcastle	28	SE	100
Nottingham	28	SE	100
Sheffield	28	SE	100
Sunderland	28	SE	100
Wolverhampton	28	SE	100



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

Nedo and CBI in plea to Lawson on Neddies

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

Big changes in committee work at the National Economic Development Office (Nedo), especially in the use of steering groups to identify key issues, were proposed yesterday by Nedo and the Confederation of British Industry. The proposals come after the Treasury plan to cut more than half of the 36 committees known as "Little Neddies".

Nedo and the CBI made separate submissions to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But whereas the CBI proposals would leave Nedo with only 13 Neddies, Nedo itself was looking for the rescue of two committees dealing with industries hard hit by imports — furniture and footwear — and the continuation of a committee on advanced manufacturing systems, on top of the 16 committees proposed by the Government.

A high priority for Nedo was the importance of keeping an adequate coverage of the engineering sector, said Mr John Cassels, Neddies' director-general. Under the Lawson plan that sector would lose all but one Little Neddies.

Committee work in engineering would also more readily survive under the CBI proposals which call broadly for a third of the Neddies to be retained, with the rest merged into about four groups, with the new system to be in operation next April. It also wants changes in the way the electronics and



Don't throw out baby with bathwater: John Cassels

construction sectors are dealt with, compared to the Chancellor's plans.

Mr John Banham, director-general of the CBI, said: "Where committees or sector groups are already tackling key issues and have a well-defined programme producing concrete results, there is good reason to leave well alone." But Mr Banham said Little Neddies might not always be the best way to carry an issue forward.

He said: "Steering or sector

groups should cover and identify broader strategic issues. Taskforces, which would have a limited life, should tackle and propose practical solutions to specific problems."

Nedo wants the Government's list of 16 Neddies and taskforces it is prepared to fund to be extended in various ways. Mr Cassels said the aim was not simply to rescue some of the threatened workload but to introduce a new flexibility and find a better way ahead. But he calculated that

rather than losing half the Nedo secretariat personnel, now numbering 188, the Nedo proposals would possibly mean a loss of about 40 per cent.

He appealed to the Government not to "chuck out the baby with the bathwater." But he admitted: "If there has been a degree of inertia about change and shortcomings and unevenness in the performance of the committees, it is obvious that a bigger effort is needed to keep them up to scratch in future."

Key suggestions from Nedo include the setting-up of a supervisory board to direct committee and other work, possibly under the chairmanship of a minister.

Nedo wants a steering group for engineering which would take on work started recently on the problem of imported components. This group, and another for the construction industries, could consider setting up a heavy engineering taskforce to look at British manufacturers' problems in international markets.

Although all the signs so far have been that the Government will stick to its proposals, Mr Cassels said he believed that, provided Nedo, the CBI and the TUC were largely of the same mind, there was a good chance of securing some change.

If Mr Lawson would not compromise, Mr Cassels said it would not be a resignation issue for him. He said: "I have not been thinking about that. I retire next year anyway, in October."

Bank to buy travel agent

By Carol Ferguson

The Royal Bank of Scotland is buying AT Mays, the UK's fifth largest and Scotland's largest travel agent, broadening the range of services it offers in Britain.

The purchase price is £9.9 million for an initial 58 per cent, including the whole of the 30 per cent interest held by Low and Bonar. The shares not owned by Low and Bonar are owned by Mr JH Moffat and his family.

Full ownership of the company will be acquired within the next five years at a price which will take account of expected profits growth over the period.

Mr Rob Farley, the bank's deputy group chief executive, said the balance of the price would be based on a price/earnings multiple of 12, giving a total price of around £14 million.

AT Mays has a network of 230 branches, half of which are in Scotland. Seventy of the branches are in areas in which the Royal Bank has no representation at present.

Mr Farley said the outlets would not be turned into branches. "We see it as an opportunity to cross-sell the bank's products such as unit trusts and insurance to AT Mays's clients, and vice versa to help bank customers", he said.

Plans include pushing AT Mays's branch network further south.

COMMENT

The fat years return for Lloyd's names

Lloyd's insurance market's practice of accounting three years in arrears gives a telescoped view of trends. As Peter Miller, chairman, yesterday announced record profits for 1984 and looked forward to improved figures in 1985 and 1986, market practitioners and observers are already pointing to storm clouds gathering this year.

The North American casualty market is softening again, as capacity returns, and the marine market is plagued by a shortage of business. After the particularly vicious downswing in the early 1980s, the insurance cycle appears to be nosing down again after only a brief upswing.

Insurers, however, point out that the insurance business worldwide is changing. Instead of the seven-year cycle — with the lean years following the fat — cycles are fragmenting between different insurance sectors and geographical areas.

The peaks and troughs are still there, as shortage of capacity and high rates are followed by a rush of new capacity and rate weakening, but they are less pronounced and last for shorter periods.

One market can also be on an up, while another is on a down. In Britain, commercial insurance is making money

at the moment, but rates are softening, while personal insurance is still losing money and still putting up rates.

For names at Lloyd's, the immediate outlook is encouraging. Not only is the incidence of disputes between names and the authorities at Lloyd's diminishing as the PCW and other affairs are settled, but the financial returns are rising. Profits certainly help to smooth out quarrels. The Oakeley Vaughan dispute, which resulted in a writ being issued against Lloyd's this week, stemmed from some highly unprofitable overwriting of business in the early 1980s.

Some highly profitable overwriting by part of the Merrett group of syndicates more recently is not likely to lead to any complaints by the enriched names.

Looking to 1987 and beyond, however, there are signs of choppy waters. Commercial rates in the United States are under pressure and market share considerations are beginning to influence pricing decisions again. Even Lloyd's is looking over its shoulder at the new headquarters of the Institute of London Underwriters and wondering whether the company market is pinching some of its erstwhile business.

Insurers will clearly have to be very choosy about just what sort of business they will write and at what price.

Barclays signals a new era

The greater the volume of transactions, the bigger are the settlement problems. And it is not just the Stock Exchange which has been discovering the painful truth of this fact. In the foreign exchange markets, too, a serious settlements problem is emerging.

The overwhelming weight of foreign exchange transactions, both spot and forward, find their way through the New York clearing system. And the system, by all accounts, is creaking. This is the rationale for Barclays' initiative, unveiled yesterday, of making a market in so-called exchange rate agreements, or ERAs.

Barclays, with £3 billion a day of settlements proceeding through the New York clearing system in respect of forward transactions alone, is well aware of the risks of a breakdown in settlements. Already one arm of the clearing system, Chips (the Clearing House Interbank Payment System), has introduced limits on the amount of uncovered payments by individual banks. And there are hints that the other, the Fed Wire, may soon go down the same road.

There are a number of ways of solving the problem. One is to divert foreign exchange settlements away from New York — and work on establishing a clearing house in London for European currency settlements is being carried out

under the auspices of Swift (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication).

The second solution, which Barclays is promoting, is the development of mechanisms for reducing the number of transactions which have to go through New York, and hence cutting the risks of system overload.

Exchange rate agreements are analogous to the existing forward rate agreements in interest rates. At present, a simple forward rate transaction carried out by a bank on the part of a corporate customer requires a disproportionately large number of matching deals in both spot foreign exchanges and swaps markets.

ERAs will allow the banks to deal in the differences between premiums and discounts on forward transactions. In other words, the amount tied up in each forward deal will be a fraction of what is required at present.

Barclays is establishing a screen-based market in ERAs on September 14. As well as other banks, large corporate customers should be interested. Within three or four months, according to Mr Peter Wood, Barclays' general manager for treasury services, it should be a free trading market in its own right. And the main reward to Barclays, apart from a reduction in its own settlement risks, will be brownie points for coming up with the idea in the first place.

Cheshire accepts £14m Dutch offer

By Lawrence Léver

Cheshire Wholefoods, the Chester natural food company, is leaving the public for only 21 months after joining the Unlisted Securities Market. Cheshire's directors, who own 61 per cent of the company, have accepted a £14.2 million takeover offer from Koninklijke Wessanen, the Dutch food group.

The offer is all cash — at 280p a share — which means a handsome profit for investors who were allocated shares in Cheshire at their 110p placing price in November 1985.

The purchase price represents an exit price/earnings ratio of more than 25. Cheshire was founded in 1975 to develop its own natural muesli product for the health food market.

Mr David Owen, of Durwen

Lid, the adviser to the company, said Cheshire wanted to expand into the US health food market. It had examined the opportunities for trading links with businesses operating in America, including Wessanen, which owns the largest health food distributor there. Wessanen had, however, made clear it wanted to own Cheshire outright.

Another factor was the £1.2 million the company was intending to spend on new plant, which might have slowed its growth in the short term.

Almost all Cheshire's board members will remain directors of the company after the takeover, although a Dutch chairman will be appointed, while Mr Ian Thomson, the present chairman, will become chief executive.

BMP in expansion purchases

By Joe Joseph

Bosse Massimi Pollitt, the advertising agency, is broadening its range of marketing services with the acquisition of Specialist Publications, a promotional publisher in Cardiff, and parts of Cooper Duff Associates, which provides editorial services to Specialist Publications.

There will be up to five other profit-related payments on top of an initial purchase price of £2.265 million, which is being met by £1.765 million in cash and 138,433 new BMP shares.

Specialist Publications and Cooper Duff produce regular magazines and colour tabloids for clients to communicate with their customers, field sales forces or franchised selling operations. Together they made pretax profits of £328,000 on sales of £1.5 million in the year to September 30, 1986.

Mr Martin Bosse, BMP chairman, said: "The acquisition typifies our growth strategy of acquiring quality businesses which occupy niche market areas. These companies will help broaden our earnings base across the marketing spectrum, as well as enhance the range of services we can offer our clients."

Specialist Publications will form part of BMP's marketing services division, the Marketing Solutions Group.

German jobless rate holds steady

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The underlying trend in West German unemployment was unchanged last month, despite an improved economic performance in the second quarter.

The numbers out of work, seasonally adjusted, remained at 2.25 million, the same level as in July. Unadjusted unemployment fell from 2.18 million to 2.16 million, while the number of people in work rose from 25.9 million in June to 26 million in July.

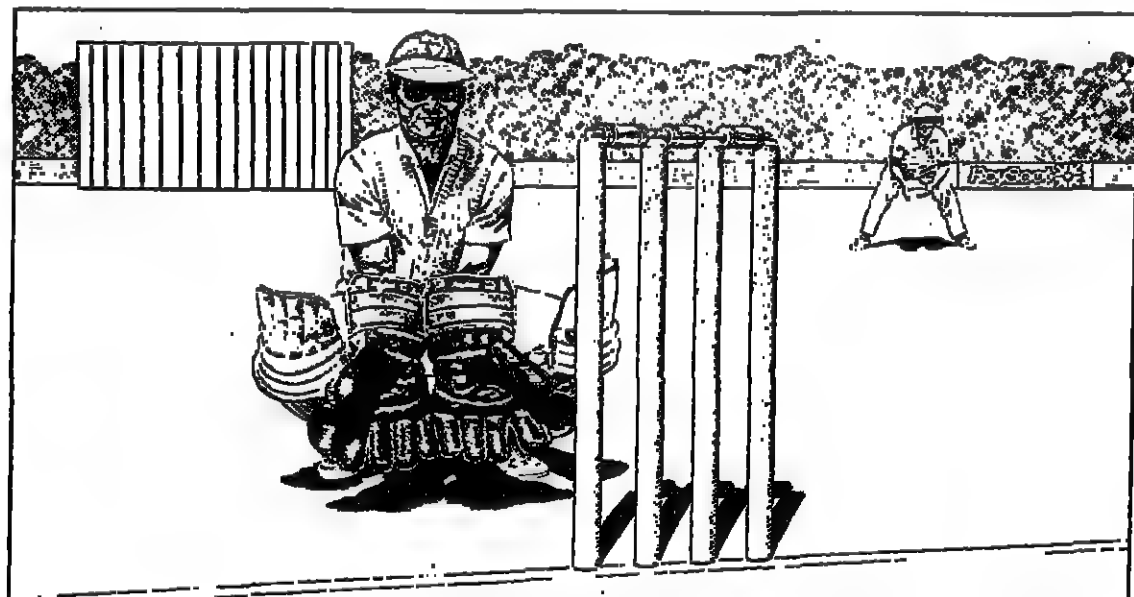
Inflationary pressures in the German economy remain very low, with the index of consumer prices unchanged last month from July. Compared with a year earlier, prices were 0.8 per cent higher.

New service from TNT

The TNT transport group yesterday launched a guaranteed overnight delivery service between most parts of the United Kingdom and Europe.

TNT Overnight Air Express will concentrate on small parcels and documents. TNT already has an operation for larger overnight consignments.

It says the service is the first guaranteed next day door-to-door delivery service in Europe and allows British firms to offer better times than many foreign competitors in their domestic markets.



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Distillers treasures go on sale

Could it be that blue-blooded stockbroker Cazenove wants a souvenir of one of its more controversial City takeover deals — the ill-fated acquisition of Distillers by Guinness? One of its corporate finance men, Richard Wintour, was among a select band of Christies' customers invited to a City preview yesterday of antique silverware, Victorian oil paintings and furniture that once graced the walls and directors' dining rooms of Distillers' various London offices. Other illustrious names to sign the visitors' book included Lord Vestey of Dewhurst meat fame. Christies has been asked to sell 123 lots, from Distillers' four London premises. The sale is expected to realize more than £200,000 and lots include George III silver mustard pots at £300, a canteen of silver cutlery for £3,500 and paintings by John Charles Maggs of City watering holes such as the Spread Eagle in Gracechurch Street and the Old White Hart and Cock Tavern in Bishopsgate, at up to £3,500 each. The City preview in Gresham Street runs until September 17 with the sale at Christies' South Kensington office on September 23.

Cat-egoric win

Jaguar's win over long-time champion Porsche in the West German 1,000km leg of the World Sportscar Championship last weekend, was also a big psychological victory for Britain. One spectator des-

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Decidedly dodgy

Fact is certainly often more humorous than fiction. A Massachusetts-based software specialist for the accounting profession by the name of McCormack & Dodge — which has a British office in Bristol — was almost forced to postpone its expansionist move into Japan earlier this

year after an eleventh-hour discovery of an error in its publicity literature there. The Japanese language agency had apparently "translated" the company's name, and thus printed on all the new letterheads and other launch material: "McCormack and Jump to One Side."



"Just a minute, mate — aren't you in for fraud?"

for Jaguar Deutschland — 40 per cent owned by Jaguar UK — in Frankfurt, where they learnt that sales of the car in West Germany are also on the increase. A few jugs of the local brew were doubtless downed in celebration.

Perk of the job

Performance-linked pay packets certainly have their perks. The annual report of electrical retailer Dixons, to be published on Monday, will reveal that the firm's 55-year-old chairman Stanley Kalms, had his salary increased by 35 per cent during the year to May 1987, from £487,654 to £659,202 — an increase of £171,548. Finance director and vice-chairman Egon von Greyerz, who along with managing director Mark Souhami, grossed a comparatively paltry £355,000, says the salaries are linked to earnings per share. "It's a complicated calculation," he tells me, "but the increases are actually less than the increase in earnings."

Racing for the course

Ladbroke, the British betting office and racing group, could be about to take over the most glamorous race course in America. The firm is one of three serious contenders — and the only non-American one — for the Del Mar race course near San Diego in California, frequented by a host of legendary Hollywood stars. Peter George, chairman of Ladbroke's racing division, confirms that he has registered a "tentative interest" in the site, and that the state-owned lease is expected to come up for renewal towards the end of next year. "It is a very beautiful race track and in a prime position," he tells me. "There are no other race tracks in the San Diego area."

If Ladbroke does eventually buy the lease, it will be its second race track in the US — the firm already owns one in Detroit. It would also be its most lucrative. Presently operated for only seven weeks each year, the average daily take during 1986 was \$3.7 million and the average daily attendance an impressive 19,682 people. "We would only be interested if we could expand the present seven-week season," says George.

Quote of the week: Lord Robens of Walsingham, who among other things was once chairman of the National Coal Board, is reputed to have described British Gas as nothing but "an old flame, tarted up."

Carol Leonard

Equities below best

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (ns) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 22.)

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

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..	Bayer (M)	382	507	+12	10.2	2.3	17.2
49	Cater Inc	428	445	+17	16.4	2.7	14.3
75	Carlson Corp	129	133	+4	8.8	2.9	..
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432	B&T (M)	682	692	+9	21.0	3.2	15.6
118	Camel	170	180				
226	Parliament "T"	375	380	+5	10.6	2.8	10.5

dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend c Interest
 not passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and
 include a special payment h Pre-merger figures
 i asset earnings j Ex other k Ex rights l Ex scrip
 or m split n Tax-free .. No significant data.

● Ex dividend ● Ex all ● Forecast dividend ● Interest payment passed ● Price at suspension ● Dividend and yield exclude a special payment ● Pre-merger figures ● Forecast earnings ● Ex other ● Ex rights ● Ex scrip or sham split ● Tax-free — No significant date.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Unit Trust Name	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Franchising's multi-billion future

By Derek Harris

Franchising should see between 16 and 20 per cent growth for several years into the next decade, according to the Franchise Development Services (FDS), which publishes *The UK Franchise Directory* annually.

Research work for the 1988 directory, now in preparation, suggests that annual turnover for the industry this year will be about £2.5 billion. There are now more than 20,000 franchised outlets and service operations involving more than 400 different franchise-company con-

cepts, according to FDS. It puts employment in franchising at more than 150,000 jobs, most of them full-time.

The figures are largely in line with expectations at the British Franchise Association, which recognises about 280 franchise operations because its criteria excludes some licensing arrangements. The association puts annual turnover at £2.2 billion and expects sales by 1991 to be reaching the £6 billion mark.

Many British companies are missing a chance to exploit their know-how for a particular business by not franchising it

abroad on the master licensee system, according to FDS. The idea is to sell to a master licensee abroad exclusive marketing rights in a particular territory for a licence fee and royalties.

An American company that had sold its master licensee rights in Britain for \$500,000 found that the potential value in Europe as a whole was £5 million, according to research by FDS.

● **Contact:** Franchise Development Services, Castle Meadow, Norwich NR2 1P; phone (0603) 620301.

Success in the kitchen

A lot of fine-kitchen shops have a tough time in what has become a highly competitive sector, but In-toto, the only franchised kitchen-retail chain so far to belong to the British Franchise Association, has since 1980 grown to 33 outlets.

In-toto, writes Derek Harris, is part of West Germany's Wellmann, one of Europe's largest kitchen manufacturers, but it is its only franchising operation which may now be extended to other national markets.

One of the most recent recruits is Mrs Carol Bowen, a mathematics teacher at Cheltenham until a visit to last year's National Franchise Exhibition introduced her to In-toto. Her husband Bill, is a marketing director for a metal-fasteners maker, so his main role with the kitchen business is to look after the books. Since setting up shop in Cheltenham last March, the planning and selling of the kitchens has fallen to Mrs Bowen and her assistant, Ann-Marie Pegler.

In-toto franchisees need to invest about £35,000 and according to the franchisor can expect an annual turnover of at least £200,000. The Bowen business seems set to achieve that in its first 12 months.

● **Contact:** Malcolm Eccleston, franchise operations manager, In-toto, Wakefield Road, Gildersome, Morley, Leeds LS27 0QW; phone (0532) 524131.



On line to a good turnover: Carol Bowen, left, and Ann-Marie Pegler

BRIEFING

The pay-up push gains support

More support has come for the Department of Employment's campaign to persuade companies, particularly bigger concerns, to pay small businesses promptly for goods and services supplied. A guidance booklet was sent out last year suggesting better payment practices in industry. Several big companies have now come out in support of the campaign, including ICI, BAT Industries, British Gas, Allied Lyons, Becton Group, Esso UK, Texaco, Vauxhall Motors and J. Sainsbury. Boots and Gailor were among those which said they gave preferential treatment to smaller businesses. The General Electric Company said that though the units in the group operated autonomously, as buyers they were expected to settle all accounts in accordance with contractual arrangements.

A revised version of the booklet, Payment on Time, will be out later this year to provide fuller guidance on some aspects of payment practice and credit management.

■ C & E International, a computer-licence maker based in Aberystwyth, is the only Welsh small business to be awarded a certificate of merit for its contribution to exports in a new round of awards from the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB). It makes computer head and tape cleaners.

High-rise costs of new skyscrapers

Prestige has its price. As the apprentice tycoon who questioned the established millionaire about what it really cost to sail a luxury yacht was told, "If you have to ask, you can't afford it!"

That message applies to the running costs of the City of London's glossy high-rise, high-tech office blocks today. An eye-opening research document from Saville, based on detailed analysis of the occupational running costs of more than five million square feet of City office buildings seems to have discovered a new law of economics.

The traditional view has always been that older buildings cost more to run. The Saville survey contradicts this. It finds a clear relationship between the occupational running costs of office buildings and their age, height and size, which are totally contrary to many property experts' previously held beliefs.

Economies of scale do not seem to exist. Maintenance costs per sq. ft. for buildings over 150,000 sq. ft. are more than double those for buildings less than 50,000 sq. ft. High buildings mean high running costs. Buildings more than 20 storeys high cost more than twice as much to maintain as lower buildings under 10 floors.

The maintenance costs of 1980s

buildings are nearly three times as high as those of pre-1970 buildings.

Nick Lahey-Bean, the Saville's director who analysed the survey, says that air-conditioning is one reason for the price escalation. The expensive image created by high-gloss exteriors pushes skyscraper-cleaning costs sky-high.

Most tall buildings are big buildings and may have more than one company

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

DOREEN KING looks at a new survey of office-building costs

on the premises. Multi-occupation can lead to differences over how much to pay for maintenance standards and, eventually, costlier repairs.

As most skyscraper office blocks stand apart from neighbouring buildings, they get no thermal protection from party walls while energy costs are affected by solar gain in the summer demanding more than air-conditioning and heat loss in the winter from today's high gloss finishes.

The gleaming towers that look so dramatic shot against a sunset in annual-report colour photographs are built with appearance as a high priority, without, says the survey, due regard for the

practicalities of maintaining the materials used.

Spacious entrance halls, atria, internal landscaping and other architectural fan- cies have their price.

Architects are not so far designing buildings for cost-conscious running. For example, says Mr Lahey-Bean, a building with four or five ground-floor exits demands a more expensive security manning than an office block with one major entry and exit point.

Developers of new buildings in the City of London are quoting projected maintenance costs of £3 to £3.50 a sq. ft.

Realistic for the first few years, but after defects liability and guarantee periods on air-conditioning plant and lifts expire, watch out for escalation, warns Saville.

So far, in the post Big Bang boom, banking and insurance companies have not quibbled about the running costs of prestige City skyscrapers.

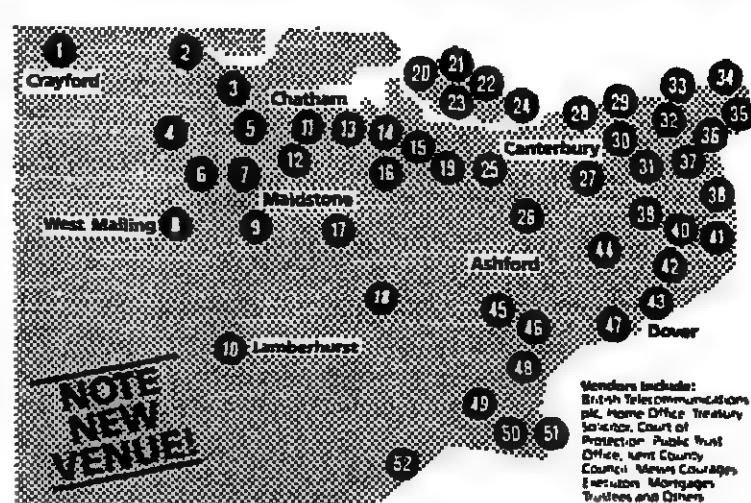
In today's letting market for commercial property maintenance costs are not yet being strongly argued into rental negotiations. But, predicts the Saville's survey, by the early 1990s, the balance of supply and demand in the City square mile may well be different and occupational running costs a vital figure on the balance sheet.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

AUCTION

120 LOTS
THURSDAY 24th SEPT 1987
AT THE GREENWAY HOTEL, LONDON RD, WEST MALLING, KENT.
AUCTION COMMENCES: 12 NOON. CATALOGUE (E1) FROM:
19 HIGH STREET, RAINHAM, KENT, ME8 7HZ. TEL: (0634) 378837



PRUDENTIAL Property Services

AUCTION

To be held on Wednesday 30th September 1987 at 3.30pm. The London Auction Room, 61/65 Great Queen Street, London WC2 1JH. FREEHOLD AND LONG LEASEHOLD COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES (unless previously sold). Total Current Gross Income: £251,273 per annum.

- MAYFAIR, 13 Charles Place, London W1. Current Gross Income: £20,000.
- REMARKABLE, 104/106 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT. Current Gross Income: £12,500.
- LEAGHAT, 100/102/104/106/108/110/112/114/116/118/120/122/124/126/128/130/132/134/136/138/140/142/144/146/148/150/152/154/156/158/160/162/164/166/168/170/172/174/176/178/180/182/184/186/188/190/192/194/196/198/200/202/204/206/208/210/212/214/216/218/220/222/224/226/228/230/232/234/236/238/240/242/244/246/248/250/252/254/256/258/260/262/264/266/268/270/272/274/276/278/280/282/284/286/288/290/292/294/296/298/300/302/304/306/308/310/312/314/316/318/320/322/324/326/328/330/332/334/336/338/340/342/344/346/348/350/352/354/356/358/360/362/364/366/368/370/372/374/376/378/380/382/384/386/388/390/392/394/396/398/400/402/404/406/408/410/412/414/416/418/420/422/424/426/428/430/432/434/436/438/440/442/444/446/448/450/452/454/456/458/460/462/464/466/468/470/472/474/476/478/480/482/484/486/488/490/492/494/496/498/500/502/504/506/508/510/512/514/516/518/520/522/524/526/528/530/532/534/536/538/540/542/544/546/548/550/552/554/556/558/560/562/564/566/568/570/572/574/576/578/580/582/584/586/588/590/592/594/596/598/600/602/604/606/608/610/612/614/616/618/620/622/624/626/628/630/632/634/636/638/640/642/644/646/648/650/652/654/656/658/660/662/664/666/668/670/672/674/676/678/680/682/684/686/688/690/692/694/696/698/700/702/704/706/708/710/712/714/716/718/720/722/724/726/728/730/732/734/736/738/740/742/744/746/748/750/752/754/756/758/760/762/764/766/768/770/772/774/776/778/780/782/784/786/788/790/792/794/796/798/800/802/804/806/808/810/812/814/816/818/820/822/824/826/828/830/832/834/836/838/840/842/844/846/848/850/852/854/856/858/860/862/864/866/868/870/872/874/876/878/880/882/884/886/888/890/892/894/896/898/900/902/904/906/908/910/912/914/916/918/920/922/924/926/928/930/932/934/936/938/940/942/944/946/948/950/952/954/956/958/960/962/964/966/968/970/972/974/976/978/980/982/984/986/988/990/992/994/996/998/1000/1002/1004/1006/1008/1010/1012/1014/1016/1018/1020/1022/1024/1026/1028/1030/1032/1034/1036/1038/1040/1042/1044/1046/1048/1050/1052/1054/1056/1058/1060/1062/1064/1066/1068/1070/1072/1074/1076/1078/1080/1082/1084/1086/1088/1090/1092/1094/1096/1098/1100/1102/1104/1106/1108/1110/1112/1114/1116/1118/1120/1122/1124/1126/1128/1130/1132/1134/1136/1138/1140/1142/1144/1146/1148/1150/1152/1154/1156/1158/1160/1162/1164/1166/1168/1170/1172/1174/1176/1178/1180/1182/1184/1186/1188/1190/1192/1194/1196/1198/1200/1202/1204/1206/1208/1210/1212/1214/1216/1218/1220/1222/1224/1226/1228/1230/1232/1234/1236/1238/1240/1242/1244/1246/1248/1250/1252/1254/1256/1258/1260/1262/1264/1266/1268/1270/1272/1274/1276/1278/1280/1282/1284/1286/1288/1290/1292/1294/1296/1298/1300/1302/1304/1306/1308/1310/1312/1314/1316/1318/1320/1322/1324/1326/1328/1330/1332/1334/1336/1338/1340/1342/1344/1346/1348/1350/1352/1354/1356/1358/1360/1362/1364/1366/1368/1370/1372/1374/1376/1378/1380/1382/1384/1386/1388/1390/1392/1394/1396/1398/1400/1402/1404/1406/1408/1410/1412/1414/1416/1418/1420/1422/1424/1426/1428/1430/1432/1434/1436/1438/1440/1442/1444/1446/1448/1450/1452/1454/1456/1458/1460/1462/1464/1466/1468/1470/1472/1474/1476/1478/1480/1482/1484/1486/1488/1490/1492/1494/1496/1498/1500/1502/1504/1506/1508/1510/1512/1514/1516/1518/1520/1522/1524/1526/1528/1530/1532/1534/1536/1538/1540/1542/1544/1546/1548/1550/1552/1554/1556/1558/1560/1562/1564/1566/1568/1570/1572/1574/1576/1578/1580/1582/1584/1586/1588/1590/1592/1594/1596/1598/1600/1602/1604/1606/1608/1610/1612/1614/1616/1618/1620/1622/1624/1626/1628/1630/1632/1634/1636/1638/1640/1642/1644/1646/1648/1650/1652/1654/1656/1658/1660/1662/1664/1666/1668/1670/1672/1674/1676/1678/1680/1682/1684/1686/1688/1690/1692/1694/1696/1698/1700/1702/1704/1706/1708/1710/1712/1714/1716/1718/1720/1722/1724/1726/1728/1730/1732/1734/1736/1738/1740/1742/1744/1746/1748/1750/1752/1754/1756/1758/1760/1762/1764/1766/1768/1770/1772/1774/1776/1778/1780/1782/1784/1786/1788/1790/1792/1794/1796/1798/1800/1802/1804/1806/1808/1810/1812/1814/1816/1818/1820/1822/1824/1826/1828/1830/1832/1834/1836/1838/1840/1842/1844/1846/1848/1850/1852/1854/1856/1858/1860/1862/1864/1866/1868/1870/1872/1874/1876/1878/1880/1882/1884/1886/1888/1890/1892/1894/1896/1898/1900/1902/1904/1906/1908/1910/1912/1914/1916/1918/1920/1922/1924/1926/1928/1930/1932/1934/1936/1938/1940/1942/1944/1946/1948/1950/1952/1954/1956/1958/1960/1962/1964/1966/1968/1970/1972/1974/1976/1978/1980/1982/1984/1986/1988/1990/1992/1994/1996/1998/2000/2002/2004/2006/2008/2010/2012/2014/2016/2018/2020/2022/2024/2026/2028/2030/2032/2034/2036/2038/2040/2042/2044/2046/2048/2050/2052/2054/2056/2058/2060/2062/2064/2066/2068/2070/2072/2074/2076/2078/2080/2082/2084/2086/2088/2090/2092/2094/2096/2098/2100/2102/2104/2106/2108/2110/2112/2114/2116/2118/2120/2122/2124/2126/2128/2130/2132/2134/2136/2138/2140/2142/2144/2146/2148/2150/2152/2154/2156/2158/2160/2162/2164/2166/2168/2170/2172/2174/2176/2178/2180/2182/2184/2186/2188/2190/2192/2194/2196/2198/2200/2202/2204/2206/2208/2210/2212/2214/2216/2218/2220/2222/2224/2226/2228/2230/2232/2234/2236/2238/2240/2242/2244/2246/2248/2250/2252/2254/2256/2258/2260/2262/2264/2266/2268/2270/2272/2274/2276/2278/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Leading contenders have the home straight in sight in the battle for the world drivers' championship

Mansell enters the serious business of an Italian job

By John Blunsden

Nigel Mansell has gone on record as saying that he will concentrate on winning one grand prix at a time in the weeks ahead and let the world championship take care of itself.

Even if he is not being 100 per cent truthful in this — after all, what driver of his stature could expect to eliminate from his thoughts the prospect of securing motor racing's premier award? — it remains sound advice.

With six of the season's 16 races remaining, starting with the Italian Grand Prix at Monza on Sunday, the possible permutations of victories and high placings by each of the four leading contenders which inevitably will determine the outcome of the 1987 contest, are such as to stretch the mathematics of even a trained statistician.

Should anyone feel disposed to indulge in such mental masochism, however, they should first be reminded of the ground rules concerning world championship points. These are awarded at the rate of nine, six, four, two and one for places one to five respectively in each race.

However, a driver is allowed to count only his best 11 scores from the full season and this could well become a

Standings with six races to go

Year	Leader	Points	Champion's pts
1986	Mansell	107	107
1985	Alboreto	94	94
1984	Prost	93	93
1983	Prost	92	92
1982	Pironi	88	88
1981	Jones	88	88
1980	Schneider	88	88
1979	Schneider	88	88
1978	Schneider	88	88
1977	Lauda	88	88

decisive influence in the final outcome this year.

At present Nelson Piquet heads the table with 54 points and theoretically he could double this score by winning all six remaining races. But he would then have to subtract his five lowest scores (totaling 18 points), giving himself a maximum potential score of 90 points.

Ayrton Senna, who is second with 43 points, would have to sacrifice nine of these should he win all the remaining races, giving him a potential maximum of 88 points. Mansell, third with 39 points, would drop only one point if he added six more wins and counted his best 11 scores, giving him 92 points — the highest potential score of anybody.

Alain Prost is the only other leading contender and, like Mansell, he would drop only one point, but as he has only 31 so far, his maximum possible score is 84 points.

These four drivers have dominated this season's championship. Between them they have scored 167 (more than two thirds) of the 250 points awarded from the first 10 races and there is little to suggest that their impact will be diminished substantially during the rest of the season.

Of this reason, less than 30 points will probably be sufficient to secure the championship and Piquet is favourite to do so. But Mansell, despite the fact that Senna is ahead of him, probably has the best chance of deposing Piquet from the top of the table.

The size of his task, however, is clear to see in the accompanying chart, which lists for the past 10 years the eventual world champion and his points position relative to the points leader when there were still six races to go (or, if he was already in the lead at that stage, his advantage over his closest rival).

Only once (Piquet, in 1981) has the champion elected not to claw back more than the 15 points which separate Mansell from Piquet.



In the driver's seat: Mansell is well positioned to depose Piquet, the championship leader

RUGBY UNION: DECISIONS TO BE MADE ON FILLING SELECTORIAL VACANCIES

Wider role for coaches in England's strategy

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

The London Schools tour of Zimbabwe, managed by David Franklin, of Mill Hill School, was both enjoyable and successful. The captain, Alex Milward, of Parley High School, had an outstanding tour, appearing at lock, No. 8 and flanker. Five games were won and only Matibeleland won 13-4.

Others to impress were Alan Phillips (Bancrofts School) and Nick Canning (Royal Grammar School, Guildford). Tony Wildgoose (Royal Hospital School) was the leading try-scorer with nine — the result of some exciting and forceful running.

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Thompson trails but time and technique are on his side

From David Miller, Rome

For the first time since he last lost a championship decathlon competition, in the European Championships in Prague nine years ago, Daley Thompson failed to lead at the end of the first day. Today's group of five events are going to demand a massive task of his concentration, ability and determination if he is to retain the superiority which he has enjoyed for so long.

All is not as bad as it might be, for some of his most serious rivals are also in difficulty. Indeed, Jurgen Hingsen, the former record-holder and for so long Thompson's main adversary, looked out of the competition after failing to clear the bar at the opening height in the high jump. Sigi Wentz, the bronze medalist in Los Angeles, was yesterday also well down on his performance in last year's European Championships, and after four events was lying fifth, a place behind Thompson.

In the opening 100 metres, Thompson returned a modest 10.62. He smiled a little thinly as his name was announced on the starting line, but there was tightness in his stride and at the finish he stood passively watching the re-run on the huge electronic screen.

Daley Thompson	100m	Long jump	Shot	High jump	400m	Halfway score	110m hurdles	Discus	Pole vault	Javelin	1500m	TOTAL
World record	10.44s	8.01m	15.72m	2.03m	46.97m	4677	14.33s	46.55m	5.00m	65.24m	4m 35s	8847
Los Angeles Aug 8/9 1984	989	1063	834	831	960		932	799	910	817	712	

1987 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	100m	Long jump	Shot	High jump	400m	Halfway score	110m hurdles	Discus	Pole vault	Javelin	1500m	TOTAL
1 Torsten Voss	10.89s	7.88m	14.98m	2.10m								
	931	1030	788	896								
2 Christian Schenk	11.42s	7.63m	15.30m	2.25m								
	769	967	808	1041								
5 Daley Thompson	10.67s	7.52m	15.09m	2.01m								
	935	940	795	813								

He knew, though he was the fastest man after four heats of this event, that he was going to have a difficult two days and disappeared down the tunnel, head down.

The long jump, the second event, was going to test the groin strain which he has been suffering for four months and which has prevented him training for this event. He started badly, and was clearly fretting, walking about and scuffing the sand in impatience in the unused triple jump pit. Yet on his third attempt he cleared 7.52

metres to finish third behind the East German, Torsten Voss, who had been second to him in the 100. Thompson walked back to change his shirt looking up at the sky in gratitude.

It was his third effort in the shot put which also pulled him out of difficulties. He began with a miserable 14.74 metres, scratched his head in puzzlement and slumped in his seat but when he achieved 15.09, his eyebrows raised in some satisfaction. It might have given him only ninth place, but now he was lying third overall behind Voss and Christian Platzat, of France, and a mere 20 points ahead of Wentz, with the powerful Simon Poelman, of New Zealand, puffing hard in fifth place.

The high jump, first of the afternoon's events, ran for over two hours because Christian Schenk, of East Germany, out-classed everyone when he continued on his own to clear 2.25 metres, worth 1,041 points, and climbed to second place behind his compatriot Voss, who had gone out at 2.10.

Thompson's mood had perceptibly improved. Now he was more relaxed, self-moving about beneath the sunshades between jumps, chatting to his fellow competitors like the competitive we have observed so often in the past. At six in the evening the sky darkened and huge flashes of thunder blizzed the Roman sky. Thompson smiled, as though it were symptomatic of the challenge which he knew lay ahead and of which he is never afraid.

After a failure at 2.01, he cleared, and though he failed at 2.03, this was the first event in four in which he had improved on his performance in Stuttgart.

Although the two East Germans and the Frenchman were ahead with the 400 metres to be run, he was by no means out of contention.

He had come through the long jump and high jump without any deterioration in his groin strain, and that would enable him to concentrate on technique in this morning's opening high hurdles and not be straining too much for speed.

Those ahead of him yesterday are not renowned for their second day performance, unlike Wentz.

Regis takes the bronze and a British record

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, Rome

For one brief, shining moment we thought that John Regis had won the 200 metres gold medal. The photographers thought so, too. On the evidence of their having crowded round Ed Moses when he had won the 400 metres hurdles by only 0.02 seconds on Tuesday, the whole stadium agreed.

Then came the television replay, more baffling than a repeat of *Sporting Triangles*. Having led for 199 metres, Regis had been edged on the line by the defending champion, Calvin Smith, and Gilles Quenehervé.

The American and the Frenchman shared the winning time of 20.16sec and Regis's reward for 20.18 was a bronze medal and a United Kingdom record, beating Alan Wells's previous time by 0.03sec.

Wells was on hand to give his considered opinion that

"John would have won it from lane four [he was in lane 2]. The bends are tight here and he had to take too much out of himself."

Regis said: "I gave a small smile when I crossed the line because I thought I had won. But with the British record I've still had a great world championships. Everything this year has been a bonus after my injury."

Regis tore ankle tendons while warming up for training by playing badminton at the start of the season. But the late entry into the ranks, as many have found, became an advantage.

Regis won a European junior bronze two years ago and the Class of 85 was responsible for the other British successes yesterday. Jon Ridgeon and Colin Jackson could not worry the defending champion, Greg Foster, in the high hurdles.

Foster winning in 13.21 seconds.

The Britons were worried enough in staying ahead of, or passing, faster-starting opponents. But they succeeded admirably and Ridgeon took the silver, equalling his recent United Kingdom record of 13.29sec. And Jackson took the bronze in 13.38sec.

They both had to work hard for their prizes. Ridgeon got a poor start and came from sixth at the sixth hurdle to third at the tenth, to second on the line. Jackson, whose hamstring injury was too recent for comfort, admitted: "I have never run so aggressively in all my life."

The British youngsters are surely bound for even greater glory. They have been swapping victories since Ridgeon won the European junior in 1985, with Jackson second. Then Jackson beat Ridgeon to the world junior title last year. If they keep this up they will take some holding at next year's Olympic Games.

Meanwhile, Foster excoriated the demon that has reduced him to tears and the hurdles to plywood in major championships since Helsinki. He, Smith and Moses have retrieved American honour as successful defenders. But the fifth day of these championships was dominated by East Germans.

Three of them won gold medals inside an hour, the best being Silke Gladisch, who became the first double gold medal winner of the championships. She won the 200 metres in 21.73sec, 0.02sec outside the world record shared by her colleagues, Marita Koch and Heike Drechsler. Gladisch won the 100 metres last Sunday.

Sabine Busch's strength overcame inept hurdling for her to win the 400 metres hurdles. And Thomas Schönlebe, the quiet man of the 400 metres, beat all the loudly hailed favourites. He had the advantage of the second lane. But everybody was still watching Innocent Egbunike, Derek Redmond and "Butch" Reynolds coming off the last bend. But it was Schönlebe, who has hardly run this season compared to his opponents, who surged down the straight to dispossess first Redmond, then Reynolds, then Egbunike of gold.

The East German won it by improving his own recent European record to 44.36sec. Egbunike was second with Reynolds third. Redmond said he had no excuses in fifth place in 45.06sec.



Sterling stuff: Ridgeon winning a silver medal in the 110 metres hurdles (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Kristiansen promises to set blistering pace

From David Powell, Rome

Liz Lynch, Scotland's Commonwealth champion, has recovered from the blistered right foot which she suffered in Monday's heats as she attempts to beat two of the greatest women distance runners in history in this evening's 10,000 metres world championship final.

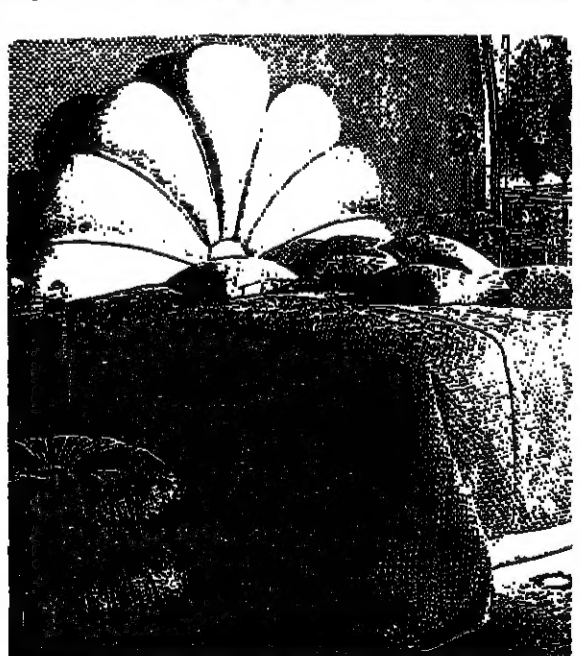
As Miss Lynch showed when forcing the pace in Edinburgh last year and again in the world cross-country championship in March, she does not lack courage on the big occasion and she will need

plenty of it to stay with Ingrid Kristiansen, the world record holder.

The Norwegian, who fears Olga Bondarenko, the former world record-holder from the Soviet Union, more, said: "If she is not willing to be in front, I have to get away from her by 2,000 metres. Then she will have to work hard from a distance behind me."

Miss Lynch's coach, John Anderson, believes her capable of running near to 30 minutes — Mrs Kristiansen's world record is 30:13.74.

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Nottinghamshire settle for a pitch prepared for mayhem

By Alan Lee

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 65 runs to beat Sussex.

Thirty wickets have fallen in the equivalent of four sessions on two rain-affected days at Trent Bridge. The effect of this drama is that Nottinghamshire have settled their nerves and should this morning move 22 points clear of Lancashire, who have a match in hand, at the head of the championship. The cause of the drama is a pitch prepared for mayhem.

No one with any cricketing foresight expected a bland, consistent surface for a game Nottinghamshire felt they had to win: poor Sussex were certainly not kidding themselves. As Ian Gould, their captain, put it: "They produced a pitch to beat the bottom side. If we were in their position, I expect we would have done the same thing."

Gould's street-wise acceptance of the situation, however, stopped short of admiration. It can be assumed that Gould's report on the pitch will reflect strong opinions. Similarly, the umpires can hardly fail to report it

either as unsatisfactory or unfit and rumours of a visit today by Bernard Flack, the inspector of pitches, surprised nobody.

With all that said, it has made for compulsive viewing in a peculiar, grizzly fashion. Other than Broad, whose 73 was an innings of high technical merit, no batsman on either side has hinted at comfort or permanency and, although an element of the pitch's malice was designed for the spinners, every wicket has fallen to the quicker bowlers.

Pigott was largely responsible for restricting Nottinghamshire to a first innings lead of 10, though Sussex were also indebted to a suicidal second run, called by Broad, which led to Parker running out Hadlee for naught.

The Sussex openers then played steadily for a time, as has occurred in each of the innings, but once the indefatigable Hadlee had removed Aikman with no help whatever from the pitch, the slide was underway.

Two delays claimed a total of 35 overs, to add to the 39 lost on Wednesday but as Sussex sank with all the said

inevitability of a side in their plight, a vocal partisan evening crowd loudly cheered every wicket.

Saxelby, his direction much better than in the first innings, finished with a career-best analysis of six for 49 but Hadlee, as ever, was in the thick of things. His match figures of 10 for 46 from 37.1 overs leave him needing 11 more wickets from the final game, against Glamorgan, to complete the "double".

SUSSEX: First Innings 123 (R J Hadlee 6 for 20).

Second Innings
R J Hadlee 6 for 20
A M Green c Hadlee b Saxelby 14
P W G Parker bow b Hadlee 8
C M Wells c Broad b Saxelby 8
J H Gould b Hadlee 10
D J Aikman c Broad b Saxelby 11
K Greenidge c Broad b Saxelby 2
P McGovern c Saxelby 11
A C Pigott bow b Hadlee 0
A M Broad not out 0
Extras (b 1, lb 2) 3
Total (80.1 overs) 60

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-30, 3-30, 4-42, 5-47, 6-57, 7-64, 8-71, 9-80.

SCORING: Hadlee 18.1-6-26-4; Saxelby 20.7-45-6; Hemmings 1-0-0-0.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings
B C Broad c Reeve b Pigott 75
R J Hadlee c Broad b Pigott 14
C E B Rice c Reeve b Pigott 8
C E B Rice c Reeve b Pigott 8
J D Broad c Aikman b C M Wells 9
E E Hemmings c C M Wells b Reeve 9
J H Gould c Broad b Pigott 19
A M Broad not out 0
A C Pigott bow b Hadlee 0
Extras (b 1, lb 2) 3
Total (80.1 overs) 133

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-49, 3-50, 4-76, 5-85, 6-90, 7-124, 8-127, 9-128.

SCORING: Pigott 17.5-35-5; Broad 4-6-22-0; Reeve 20.1-6-42-3; Green 2-0-12-0; C M Wells 7-1-18-1.

Second Innings
B C Broad not out 8
R J Hadlee not out 0
Total (no wickets) 6
Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 4, Sussex 4.
Umpires: H D Bird and J W Holder.

Photograph of Hadlee in high speed action, page 33

Willis out in row at Edgbaston

By Jack Bailey

Bob Willis, the former captain of England and Warwickshire, has resigned as chairman of Warwickshire's cricket committee after seven weeks in charge.

In announcing his departure, the Warwickshire committee yesterday issued a detailed version of events leading to Willis's decision. Willis himself followed this with his own view of things, critical not only of David Heath, general secretary of the club since October 1986, but also, by heavy implication, the chairman and several other committee members.

The committee statement referred to Willis making "several personal attacks on the general secretary, Mr D. M. W. Heath". These took place last Tuesday at a meeting of the General Purposes and Finance Committee. The statement added that the five other senior members of the committee present (including M. J. K. Smith, another former England captain, who will take over Willis's post *pro tem*) "all expressed surprise and disagreement with Mr Willis".

Willis tendered his resignation after the meeting and this has been accepted by A. D. Steven, the club's chairman who, with other members present at the meeting in question, "expressed their complete confidence in Mr Heath". For his part, Willis says: "The attacks are only personal in so far as they reflect my opinion of the ability of the general secretary to run this club."

Berbick will take on Bruno at Wembley

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Bruno's next opponent will be Trevor Berbick, the former World Boxing Council heavyweight champion. They will meet at Wembley Arena on September 29, the match being confirmed yesterday.

Berbick, who is a Jamaican-born Canadian and ranked tenth in the world, several places below Bruno, is expected in London 10 days before the bout with two top sparring partners.

Manx double

Brian Raynor, of Grantham, beat the record by 44.2sec in 2hr 6min 44.2sec (107 m.p.h.) to win the six-lap senior Manx Grand Prix on the Isle of Man yesterday and Craig Ryding, of Longton, Lancashire, secured the first double since 1984 in the four-lap 250cc lightweight race.

Dutch treat

Queen's Park Rangers, leading the first division, announced a sponsorship deal with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and The Netherlands Board of Tourism yesterday worth £200,000.



Jahanir: challenged

Johnson moves up

Ben Johnson, the world 100 metres champion and record holder, will move up to 200m for the first time this season at the grand prix athletics finals on Friday in Brussels.

The Canadian will then be joined by Ed Moses, the 400m hurdles champion, at the McVie's Challenge at Crystal Palace next Sunday.

High stakes

Morten Frost, the All-England singles champion, and Steve Baddeley, the England No. 1, will captain the opposing sides in the Carlton v Vauxhall badminton challenge at six venues for a £12,000 prize in November. Frost partners Michael Kjeldsen and Henrik Svareer and Steve Par-Gunnar Jonsson, while Baddeley's team is Billy Gilliland, Nick Yates, and Dan Travers.

Top entries

Jahanir Khan heads the list of entries for the ICI Perspex world open squash rackets championship in Birmingham next month, but the Pakistani will face a tough challenge from Ross Norman, of New Zealand, and the Australians, Rodney Martin and Geoff Hunt, who have all had victories over him. Martin won the New Zealand Open against Stuart Davenport in Wellington yesterday.

END COLUMN

Bridging the hostility gap

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The Football Association is considering reinforcing the fragile bridge of sporting friendship that stretches between England and Argentina. The two nations, who collided for the first time since the Falklands conflict in the World Cup quarter-final last summer, may meet again at Wembley in May.

No official approach has yet been made but Ted Croker, the secretary of the FA, stated yesterday that Argentina could be offered an invitation to compete with England and Scotland in the Rous Cup, the triangular tournament to be staged at the end of the season. The trophy is held by Brazil.

"It would be a very attractive fixture in a sporting sense," Croker said. "After all, Argentina are the champions of the world. It could also be a wonderful public relations exercise, if that is what is wanted at this time." He added that there appear to be few valid alternatives.

Wonderful public relations exercise

If England have reached the finals of the European Championships, neither they nor any of the seven other qualifiers would at that delicate stage willingly risk the possibility of suffering psychological damage. Domestic fixture congestion rules out most of the other potential candidates.

"We are looking at the last two weeks or so in May after our own season has ended. Most of the European countries, and particularly those who now have a break in mid-winter, are not scheduled to finish until June. Opponents from the continent will, therefore, obviously be hard to find."

The timing of the fixture, the Tuesday before the game against Scotland, exacerbates the problem and has done so in the past. "We nearly always look to South America not only because of the difficulty of the arrangements but also because of the benefit of playing against them."

Bobby Robson has added his weight to the proposal which would have to be sanctioned in Whitehall. England's manager feels that it is "important that we play as often as possible against the South Americans because we need that sort of experience in the bank when it comes to World Cups".

The FA had also thought of inviting Uruguay but the Scots, who were involved with them in an ugly and tempestuous World Cup tie in Mexico, would not even entertain the idea. "I think it is fair to say that the Scots would not be happy to play against them" was Croker's diplomatic statement.

Scots reject idea of playing Uruguay

He did admit that, apart from the visit to Israel in the middle of February, three other dates have been set aside for the months in which the England squad hope to be preparing for the European Championships finals. The first is in March at home, probably against The Netherlands.

"Meaningful discussions" have also been held with officials from France and Portugal. One nation is expected to act as hosts in April, the other at the beginning of June. Both, and especially the French, will be apprehensive about becoming the victims of hooliganism in their own home.

Croker, speaking at the launch of his autobiography, titled *The First Voice You Hear*, agreed that the behaviour of drunken hooligans has been "a persistent cloud" hanging over the FA and the game in recent years. "As in most businesses, there are problems you have to live with," he said.

Wembley may have to live with several of them in May. The crowd's reaction to Maradona last month suggested that he is not the most popular of figures, although Croker suggested that "their attitude was based on his hand-of-God goal rather than the fact that he is an Argentine".

Four days later the tartan army will be readmitted to a city and an arena on a Sunday for the first time since the Government stipulated that the traditional fixture must be held in mid-week. The Metropolitan Police force will not be alone in watching north London. So will the eyes of UEFA.